

THE AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY JOURNAL

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CATALOGING CODE REVISION

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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Editor: Jean P. Whyte, B.A., A.M.

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Editorial

Since the publication of the Tentative Programme for the August Conference two important names have been added to the list of speakers and the subject which is perhaps the one which interests Australian librarians most has been added to the programme. Previous meetings have shown that a discussion on Education for Librarianship interests most members—and provokes many of them. We hope that the proposed sessions on *Education for Librarianship in New Zealand* by Mr. Clifford W. Collins, and *Education for Librarianship in the United States* by Mr. E. A. Wight will prove no exceptions to the rule.

Mr. Collins, M.A., A.B.L.S. (Mich.), F.L.A., is Librarian of Canterbury University, New Zealand. He is a lecturer in the New Zealand Library School, and a tutor and examiner for the New Zealand Library Association. His special professional interests include library architecture, bibliographical and other co-operation and library training. We hope that Mr. Collins is the first of a long line of librarians from New Zealand who will be speaking at and attending our Conferences.

Mr. Ed. A. Wight, M.A. (Columbia), Ph.D. (Chic.), is a Professor on the Faculty of the School of Librarianship at the University of California. He is visiting Australia to look at the local public library scene. He has participated in several surveys of public library services, is the author of *"Evaluation and revision of the Library School Curriculum"* and several other papers on the problems of public libraries and of educating librarians.

The Association is fortunate in having two such prominent members of the profession to speak at its Conference, and it is appropriate that their subject be discussed. When the Library Association of Australia holds its Eleventh Conference graduates

from Australia's first University School of Librarianship will be attending it, and our discussions of education for librarianship will no longer be confined to producing one ideal syllabus. But the problems to come are certainly as difficult as those with which we struggle today. The relationship between the University School and the Board of Examination; the relative advantages of certification and accreditation; the content of the Association's syllabus in relation to the University School; and the practical difficulties of teaching both outside a formal school and in the schools with part-time teachers (who have full-time jobs) are problems that will grow and stay with us.

Fifteen years ago the first examinations of the Australian Institute of Librarians were held and the members of the Association who have benefited from those examinations are grateful to those who realized the importance of professional knowledge and examinations and worked long and hard to set up and carry on the examination system. Soon another generation of librarians will profit from the opportunity to study librarianship at a university, and the existence of the school should effect the standard of the profession throughout the country.

We hope that the School will attract students from all over Australia and from all types of libraries, and that members will encourage their staffs to attend this School which is being organized by our President, John Metcalfe, who, more than any other member of the Association, has given time and thought and energy to the problems of educating librarians. He has been Chairman of the Board of Examination since its foundation in 1941, and, as Librarian of the University of New South Wales, is charged with the task of setting up a School of Librarianship. We wish him and his School well, and we congratulate him.

Cataloguing in Source

In 1958-59 the Library of Congress, with the aid of a grant from the Council on Library Resources, provided copy for catalogue entries which were printed in just over a thousand new American publications. Some government publications (e.g., those of the Department of the Interior) carry the catalogue entry as well as some serials (e.g., the 1959 *Annual Report of the Librarian of Congress* and the second report of the Council on Library Resources).

After the trial period all participating publishers were invited to comment on their experience. The response has been generally favourable. At the same time libraries as consumers were invited to express their views to a special group of surveyors. When all responses from the book trade and libraries have been received the success or failure of the scheme can be measured. A decision will thereupon be made to establish the programme on a permanent basis or to discontinue it altogether.

Australian libraries should take a special interest in the experiment because cata-

loguing in source was tried ten years ago when Cheshire included entries supplied by the University of Melbourne Library in its publications. In January 1958, when the American book trade was approached to determine its possible interest in cataloguing in source, a Cheshire publication was taken around as a demonstration copy.

The book trade reacted favourably to the proposal at that time. It saw bibliographical benefits if publishers, booksellers, bibliographers and librarians all described a work in identical terms. A number of publishers and booksellers reported that as many as 25 per cent of library orders cannot be readily filled because of failure to identify adequately the items that are wanted.

For librarians the cataloguing procedures should be speeded up greatly if each work carries its own catalogue entry. Eventually, if a "cataloguer's camera" is developed along lines conceived by the Council on Library Resources, the whole nature of the cataloguing process could be rethought and streamlined.

A. D. Osborn.

Andrew D. Osborn, Librarian at the University of Sydney was awarded the Margaret Mann citation for outstanding professional achievement in cataloguing and classification, at the 78th Annual Conference of the American Library Association (ALA). The Citation was made at the Membership Meeting of the ALA's resources and Technical Services Division.

The citation reads:

"The Margaret Mann Citation in Cataloguing and Classification is awarded in 1959 to Andrew D. Osborn for his varied and extensive contributions to cataloging. As a penetrating analyst of cataloging rules and practice, a thoughtful author of comprehensive works, a careful translator, a helpful consultant to various libraries, an alert promoter of simplifications, a successful teacher and an effective supervisor, he has demonstrated the type of librarianship

that has led to progress in the field of cataloging.

Maurice F. Tauber, Chairman.

Award of the Margaret Mann Citation Committee.

Gertrude L. Oelrich, Chairman.

Cataloging and Classification Section, Resources and Technical Services Division of the American Library Association."

Libraries and Librarianship in Canada

By VICTOR CRITTENDEN, B.A., B.Sc. (Econ.), B.L.S., Assistant Librarian University of New England.

Canadian Libraries have one basic problem which has become dominant not only in all her cultural life and effort, but in almost every field of endeavour. This is the overwhelming domination of the United States of America, her friendly, sometimes too friendly, neighbour. Australians may think this to be no burden, and envy those lucky Canadians who have all that American wealth and desire to help right at their back door. In effect the Canadians find it an effort to prevent themselves from being swamped. The theme of the Massey report, (The Canadian Royal Commission on the Arts Letters and Sciences) which has become justly famous in Canadian academic and cultural circles, is the desire and need for Canada to help and encourage a Canadian form of cultural development.

The result of this feeling has been the tendency to introduce more British culture, books, films, plays and radio and television programs, in an effort to balance the American influence, with the hope that the Canadian can grow between the two. Australia is spared this constant battle, perhaps that is our loss, as the constant struggle in Canada produces much that is original and may produce in the end something great.

This conflict has been felt in the library world and has resulted in a growth of Libraries and in more balanced collections even in the smaller communities. The small local public libraries vary in quality and size, as they do in Australia. It is difficult to compare these libraries in the two countries, but I shall give you one example and you may draw your own comparisons. I visited a Library in Parry Sound, a

northern town with a population of about 5,000.

The town is in summer, a holiday resort, and could be compared to Port Macquarie in New South Wales. The Library was well housed and in 1955 contained 11,271 books, it had listed 2,325 borrowers and spent \$2,260 on books a year. The Librarian was a man with a degree from the University of Edinburgh and a Library Science Degree from the University of Toronto. This is an average country library and illustrates the state of development.

The large cities are well served by efficient large libraries which have many branches throughout the suburbs. The general exceptions to this arrangement are to be found in French Canada, where a different system and the problem of Church dominance of social and cultural development are involved. The English Canadian cities all have large central libraries in much the same fashion as the Australian cities. Toronto is a city of one and a quarter million people and has a central library both Reference and Lending, controlling twenty branches in the suburbs and with a book stock of close to a million books. It spends about \$145,000 on books per year. The emphasis is however on service to the reader and not on the number of books, and even the small branch would have three full time librarians and a children's librarian as well as a number of part time assistants. This staff is simply for service as buying and cataloguing is done by the central library. This reflects the American influence in the Public Library field, a stress on assistance and help to the reader. Reference services are all highly developed and busi-

ness houses are encouraged to bring their problems to the library.

In the field of Universities the proximity of the United States is very valuable particularly for inter-library loan borrowing. The Canadian Library Association working with the American Library Association has worked out an efficient system of inter-library loan using special forms, and based on Union Catalogues in Ottawa and Washington. The University Libraries are most concerned with the quantity of research being done each year. A University like Toronto with an academic staff of 3000 and a graduate student population of almost a thousand keeps the Reference Section of five librarians and one clerical assistant busy the whole year.

All Canadian libraries face the problem which Australian libraries have also met, that of a collection growing at such a pace as to out-run all possible space either available or hoped for. So far Canada has not adopted the scheme of co-operative storage as developed in England and America. They are just beginning to realise this problem as the numbers of books in the large libraries approach the million mark.

In the field of Library Training, Canada has well outstripped us. Canada has adopted the American system and has established University Library Schools in her two largest and most famous Universities, McGill University in Montreal and the University of Toronto. These schools produce about one hundred graduates between them each year, granting them a Bachelor of Library Science, these graduates having all previously received a B.A. or other degree. Library training of this sort is necessary to obtain any of the many positions advertised each year and a high standard of professional qualifications is in this way maintained. Thus there is a permanent flow of qualified librarians and a gradual raising of the standards and status of librarianship is achieved. There is of course a flow of trained people across the border into the United States and Canadians continually lament this drain on their intellectual resources just as Australians frequently deplore the export

of their talent and brains to England.

Another library field in which Canada has left us behind is in the establishment of a working Union Catalogue of Books. The National Library and Bibliographic Centre already plays a vital role in library work in Canada although it was only established in 1952. The National Library book collection is as yet very small, but they have established a Union Catalogue of books held by the large libraries in Canada.

This was achieved in a short time by the use of photography. A small machine moved from library to library across Canada and photographed all the main entry cards in each library catalogue. The films were processed and printed, the prints cut into the size of catalogue cards and interfiled in the master catalogue in Ottawa. Each library interfiled as it was photographed and an agreement was made to send a card for each new accession and each withdrawal for the library. In time the photographic cards will be replaced by ordinary cards for each book with the symbols of the libraries holding the book on the one card. In the meantime it is used constantly by libraries across Canada and saves endless delays. By 1954 2,853,000 cards in seventy-six libraries had been photographed and processed.

One of the main supporters of the Union Catalogue project was the Canadian Library Association. This very vigorous body supports many projects, one of its biggest is the publication of the Index to Canadian Periodicals. It is also at work producing microfilm copies of important Canadian newspapers and other perishable records. The Association assists the National Library in the promotion of Canadian books abroad and advises New Canadians in the choice of reading. It also advises libraries large and small on their general book collection and other library problems.

The library collection in a Canadian library reflects the schizophrenia in Canadian culture. The latest American reference work will sit side by side with the latest British work. The Librarian may buy Colliers new glossy and lavishly

illustrated Encyclopaedia, but will also want a copy of Chambers to give the British "Bias". The general literature and serious non-fiction also has this diversity of approach in a conscious effort to maintain a balance. Modern American fiction might predominate but there will be a good sprinkling of modern English writers.

We do have a tendency to regard Canada as practically American. This is far from true in both intellectual and cultural fields as well as in the more common everyday habits and modes of thought. Canadians and Americans have in the past fought wars against each other and at the time that Australia was being settled, Canada was also being settled by men and women who were leaving or being forced to leave the new republican paradise south of the Great Lakes. Canadian Federation in 1867 was hurried along by genuine fears that the United States might annex the weak and divided North American Colonies or be able to persuade Great Britain to sell them, as France had sold Louisiana sixty years earlier. America had at this time annexed Texas and California and purchased Alaska from Russia, and this further increased Canadian fears. The problem of this fear of absorption still remains, although the danger of political annexation is practically non-existent even if an American Senator did recently seriously suggest that Canada be admitted to the Union, not doubting for a minute that the Canadians would refuse. The suggestion was treated with much amusement in Canada with alternative suggest-

ions for the United States to return to the Empire.

Even so United States economic and cultural absorption are real dangers about which Canada is really concerned. Canada and America are certainly friendly neighbours, but like all neighbours the more powerful one is at times resented and feared by the other.

The danger is more apparent in that both countries are English speaking. If Canada were completely French speaking this great danger of cultural absorption would be considerably lessened, as is the case with Mexico. Libraries therefore feel they have a great role to play and are becoming increasingly aware of this part, not so much in the purely defensive role of protecting the Canadian reader against American cultural absorption but in assisting in the emergence of something they believe is a typical Canadian culture.

The result of this interplay and conflict of ideas is a great surging forward in Canadian culture and thought. The aim is to produce Canadian ideas and foster Canadian talent by balancing the dominating American position with the British counterpart, assisted by their English and French Canadian national feelings. The Librarians increasing their prestige and the quality of their libraries are drawing on sound American library practices. In putting them to work they are attempting to mould them into a Canadian pattern. Only the future can tell us whether they have succeeded.

Arabic Editions of Classic Authors

The Bureau of the Ministry of Education of the United Arab Republic plans to publish Arabic editions of about one thousand works representing European culture. Translations from Goethe,

Molière and Shakespeare have already been published.

Unesco: Bibliographical News,
Vol. 8, 2, March, 1959.

New Libraries

The Editor would like to hear of the opening of new libraries.

South Australia:

The Barossa Valley Public Library, Nuriootpa Branch, was opened by the Premier, Sir Thomas Playford, on March 20th, 1959. This library serves a population of 3,000 and has an initial stock of 2,000 books. Within a month there were over 600 registered borrowers, and 4,000 books had been lent. It is hoped that further libraries will be set up in this district to form a regional scheme.

Woodville Municipal Council and Port Adelaide Municipal Council have both decided to implement the Libraries (Subsidies) Act and set up free libraries.

Victoria:

The Baillieu Library of the University of Melbourne was officially opened by the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable R. G. Menzies, C.H., Q.C., LL.M., on Saturday, March 21, 1959. Present at the opening were about 600 guests, including Lord and Lady Baillieu and many other members of the Baillieu family.

After the opening ceremony, Lord Baillieu unveiled a commemorative plaque in the foyer of the Library. The visitors were shown over the building by members of the library staff, then afternoon tea was served.

Malvern City Library. On Wednesday, 20th May, the Mayor of Malvern (Cr. S. E. Hayes) opened this, the 77th municipal library in Victoria.

The fine brick building is superbly planned for use by readers as well as staff. It is tastefully decorated and takes maximum advantage of natural light. The furniture is made of mountain oak and silver ash which harmonize with the tasteful cork floor coverings and wall and ceiling decorations.

Children and adults are provided for, and there is an auditorium for use by the local cultural organizations.

Bookstock is approximately 18,000 volumes and a number of general periodicals are received many of which will be available for home reading.

The bookshelves are designed to make full use of the available floor space for display and for easy access by readers.

Mr. P. A. Thomas, F.L.A., is librarian.

New South Wales:

Ryde Municipal Library opened a new Branch at Eastwood on June 6th, 1959.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN FREDA BAGE FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited from women graduates in Australia for the Freda Bage Fellowship. The Fellowship is valued at £1,000 and is offered by the Australian Federation of University Women to enable a suitably qualified woman graduate to undertake study or research in one of the countries of South or South-East Asia. Applications, giving details of age, academic record, research and other experience, any published work, proposed plan and duration of work, the names of two referees and a small photograph, should reach the Honorary Secretary of the A.F.U.W. (Mrs. A. E. McLucas, c/- Scots College, Victoria Road, Bellevue Hill, N.S.W.), by 15th September, 1959.

B. McLUCAS,

Honorary Secretary.

Sydney,
March, 1959

A History of the City of Sydney Public Library

By L. G. NORMAN
Research Officer, City of Sydney Public
Library.

The Beginnings:

The origin of the City of Sydney Public Library can be traced back to the early history of the Colony and the foundation of the "Australian Subscription Library and Reading Room", which opened on 1st December, 1827. In 1869, the Government of the day purchased the books and site of this Library, which was reopened the same year as the "Free Public Library of Sydney", on the corner of Bent and Macquarie Streets. Five years later, the possibility of including a lending section was first discussed, and on 3rd July, 1877, a branch was opened for this purpose in the basement of the main building. In 1881 the lending branch was moved into the former Presbyterian Church building in Macquarie Street, adjoining Parliament House, the librarian being E. W. Palmer. Here the Library remained until 1899, when it was moved to the second floor of the Queen Victoria Market Buildings, but not to its present location. On 22nd December, 1908, an Act was passed whereby the control and management of the lending branch was vested in the Municipal Council of Sydney. However the transfer was not completed until October, 1909, and it is from this date that the history of the Library as an independent unit may be said to start.

Prior to the transfer, the Council had appointed a sub-committee to plan the organization of the Library, and the recommendations of this sub-committee were adopted *in toto* by the Council. In view of current library practices, it is interesting to discover that the sub-committee was to be responsible for the selection of

books, a sum of £1,000 for this purpose being added to the Estimates. It also stipulated that, as the aims of the Library were educational, the funds should be devoted primarily to works of a literary, scientific, or informative character, and that no money should be spent on modern fiction. The original stock was given a token valuation of 1/6d. per volume, and the "Chivers Indicator" was purchased for £175. The sub-committee suggested that a catalogue of the stock be prepared, and a temporary staff was appointed for this purpose. It also advocated the appointment of one book repairer, one book cleaner and one floor cleaner. A specific reference was made to the possibility of introducing "open access" borrowing, the sub-committee stating that it did not favour the adoption of this system, at least for the present. The daily morning papers from each State capital, and also the evening papers of Sydney, and the London "Weekly Times", were to be subscribed to.

The conditions of membership laid down by the sub-committee were that all those inhabitants of Sydney whose names appeared on the Electoral Roll of Citizens were entitled to become members of the Library without furnishing any further guarantee, but people living outside the limits of the City area were required to furnish a guarantee endorsed by a City ratepayer. It was soon apparent, however that this latter requirement was seriously affecting the development of the Library. Many incipient suburban borrowers did not know a ratepayer, and many ratepayers were wary of committing themselves to any definite responsibility, and so, six months later, an amended version of the by-laws

*This is the third article in the series on the history of Australian libraries.

was published, (Government Gazette, 29th June, 1910). Under the amendment, a non-resident could be recommended for membership by any one of a number of persons holding responsible positions in the community. The list of such persons was comprehensive enough to cover most contingencies, and this system of personal recommendation is still used today by the majority of members joining the Library.

In September, 1909, Charles H. Bertie was appointed librarian by the Town Clerk, T. H. Nesbitt. Mr. Bertie took up his appointment on 1st October, 1909, and officially assumed control of the Library, on behalf of the Council, from the Government on 15th October, 1909.

The Library which Mr. Bertie thus received was in an appalling condition. For two years, a minimum amount of money had been spent on it and that only on necessities. No new stock had been bought, and at least 10% of the existing books needed re-binding, while many more were so tattered and soiled that they had to be burned.

Before the Library re-opened, the rooms were thoroughly cleaned and re-painted, and electricity was installed in place of the old gas lighting.

The system of borrowing current at that time was based on closed access and fixed-location. The position of every book in the Library was duplicated on a Library Recorder (such as the Chivers Indicator), which was divided into 25 narrow parallel sections, each numbered to represent one shelf. These sections were further divided, across their length, into 200 small subdivisions, each representing one book on the shelf. The Recorders, which were roughly 6' x 4', thus had 5,000 divisions, each of which contained a small slip, or "tell-tale", giving the number of the book to which it corresponded. If the book was on the shelves, the "tell-tale" was visible through the glass front of the Recorder; if the "tell-tale" was drawn back, the book was not available.

As a general rule each of the following steps was necessary before a borrower was able to receive the desired book:—

1. To catalogue, to find shelf and position number of the book.
2. To Recorder, to ascertain whether the book is available.
3. To counter, where application for book is made out and handed to attendant.
4. Attendant goes to shelf, removes book, and replaces it with dummy, on the back of which is pasted slip bearing borrower's number.
5. Attendant then goes to Recorder, and adjusts "tell-tale" to show that book is no longer available.
6. Attendant returns to counter, and enters necessary records in the loan book.
7. Borrower receives book.

This system was so cumbersome that it is fortunate that the daily average of books issued was well below 200!

From his appointment, Mr. Bertie had strongly advocated changing to the "open access" system, which was rapidly gaining favour in English and American libraries. Although the sub-committee had recommended against the introduction of "open access", Mr. Bertie achieved a partial success the following year when a new floor was built at one end of the Library to house the old stock, and all new and re-bound books were transferred to an open access section. This open access portion, containing 2,931 new and 1,579 rebound books, was officially opened on 18th October, 1910, to the accompaniment of a lyrical, if somewhat narcissistic, burst of oratory:—

"This ceremony emphasises a new phase of legitimate municipal activity not inspired by utilitarian motive, and not encouraged by any expectation of financial gain . . ." (here followed a resume of the work done in clearing slums, reclaiming the land and beautifying the City) the speaker concluding with: "To-day a new field of enterprise is open to us, not the less important because intangible; we commemorate the inauguration of a project by which we shall help to reclaim intellectual

slums, to remove the abodes of ignorance and prejudice, to substitute the solid foundations and noble edifices of knowledge, to extend the mental horizon and improve the landscape."

During the same year a number of other facilities were also introduced, including a comprehensive card catalogue, a separate children's section, and printed class catalogues, which borrowers could purchase for 1d. each. In 1911 a subject index of the Library was prepared and printed. This was sold for 1/- per copy, but the response was not sufficient to justify the labour of keeping it up-to-date, and it was discontinued.

When open access was introduced, it had been anticipated that there would be a noticeable increase in the number of books stolen, and it was therefore gratifying to be able to report at the end of 1910 that only 2 pamphlets, valued at 2/9d., were missing! This happy state of affairs was not destined to last, and by 1914 the total had risen to 85. The seriousness of this was somewhat minimised, in the words of the Annual Report for that year, as "36 are works of fiction . . . the loss is not heavy". A check of the first 5 years of operation of the Library revealed only 253 books permanently missing. Although the number of books missing continued to rise (by 1919 it was 934, a fact which was attributed at least in part to the general slackening in moral standards engendered by the First World War), the total has seldom exceeded 0.2% of the total circulation figure for the year. As 0.5% is considered to be the average anticipated loss through theft, it would appear that Sydney's inhabitants are somewhat more honest than those of other cities!

The Library space was divided between the Library proper, which was 134' x 25', and the Newspaper Room, which was 65' x 25'. Despite the fact that the conditions under which the Library operated were not all that might be desired, it proved extremely popular in its re-constituted form. Between 15th October and 31st December, 1909, the books issued totalled 12,275. In 1910, the first full year

of operation, issues were 52,767, and the following year they jumped to 103,621. Between 1910 and 1921 the daily average rose every year, from 175 to 1,917.

The Library Expands

By the end of 1916, the stock had risen to 27,073, the year's issues totalled 175,254, and there were 19,645 registered borrowers, so that the consideration of new premises became a matter of urgency. In 1918, when the Queen Victoria Building was being re-modelled, it was suggested that the Library move into the old concert hall at the northern end of the building. This offer was eagerly accepted. Two extra floors were erected within the hall, one of which provided for the Newspaper Room, and the other for administrative offices. Further space was obtained by the removal of one of the lifts, and that area was set aside for a separate Children's Room. The new premises were opened on 18th March, 1918, by the Lord Mayor, Alderman (later Sir) Joynton Smith.

The enlarged Newspaper Room allowed for the provision of seating accommodation for readers. Between 800-900 people visited the Newspaper Room daily to consult the 430 newspapers and magazines from all over the world to which the Library now subscribed. The pride of the Newspaper Room, however, was a complete file of the "Sydney Morning Herald" from the date of the first issue to the present day. Another special feature was a collection of press cuttings on Australians of note and Australiana, which was started in 1910, and is still maintained today. The cuttings now fill over 65 volumes and are provided with a comprehensive index of some 50,000 cards.

The new Children's Room was widely praised, the "Sydney Morning Herald" of 20th March, 1918 devoting a column to its opening. The room was specially painted in gay, pastel shades, flowers and pictures were provided, and even a wash-basin and liquid soap! Juvenile borrowers were supposed to have reached the age of 12 years before being admitted as members of the Library, but a certain amount of elasticity was permitted in the

observance of this rule. The Children's Library proved a most successful innovation, and was visited, and copied, by a number of librarians from other States.

Apart from these major alterations, 1918 also saw the introduction of two new features. The first of these was the installation of an Inquiry Desk in the Main Library. Apart from instructing borrowers in the use of the catalogue and assisting in the choice of books, the officer-in-charge of the Inquiry Desk is responsible for compiling bibliographies on specialized subjects, and answering queries on general knowledge. Originally the Desk was staffed by one of the assistants at the Charging Desk, but now an experienced officer is supplied from the Cataloguing Department. Today, with a permanent stock of nearly 2,000 "Quick Reference" books, the Inquiry Officer can answer the majority of questions asked by borrowers. Some, however, such as the man who wanted a decade-by-decade list of the world population from the year 1 A.D., or the woman who claimed to have inherited a dehydrated chunk of the brain of the philosopher Tom Paine, and wished to know how to accord it a decent Christian burial, apparently over-estimate the range of information available! The second innovation was the decision to change the classification from the old Browne system to the Dewey Decimal system. Previously the stock had been broadly classified as follows:—

- A— Natural Science
- AX— Useful Arts
- AY— Fine and Recreative Arts
- B— History
- C— Biography
- D— Geography, Topography, etc.
- E— Social Science
- F— Philosophy and Religion
- G— Poetry and Drama
- H— Fiction
- J— Literature
- K— Miscellaneous
- M— Juvenile
- FT— Foreign Text

With the greatly increased use made of

the Library, this classification was too cumbersome, and so a start was made in 1919 on the change-over. All new stock was classified under Dewey, and the old stock was gradually transferred. This was a long and tedious job, involving as it did not only an alteration to all the books, but also an adjustment to all the Library records, and was not finally completed until 1933.

Early in 1920 Mr. Bertie recommended the introduction of wicket gates, as a means of reducing the number of books lost through theft—apparently on the assumption that only non-borrowers were dishonest! The gates were installed in 1921, and at the end of that year, the number of books missing totalled 1,322 (nearly 300 more than for 1920!). Perhaps the thieves treated these added precautions as a form of "dare", but if so, the fun of outwitting the Library must have lost its appeal, for in 1922 there were only 905 books missing. However 1922 was also the first year since 1910 in which the daily average did not exceed that of the preceding year, being down by over 400 issues per day. This was directly attributable to the wicket gates, as long queues formed during busy periods, with the result that many borrowers who could not afford to wait stopped using the Library altogether. In an endeavour to relieve this congestion, the Library discarded the Browne Charging System in 1923, and introduced the Newark System, which remained in force until the beginning of 1959, when, in an attempt to reduce errors in charging, the Library reverted again to a modification of Browne. The Browne System has always been in operation in the juvenile departments of the Library.

The year 1924 was a record year for issues, reaching 461,088 volumes for the year, which was the highest number issued since the opening of the Library in 1877. 1924 also saw the introduction of a subject destined to make more reappearances than the late Nellie Melba—the need for a new Library building. The passage of thirty-five years has lent to Mr. Bertie's words a wistfulness which was probably not originally intended: "Sydney has

pioneered the way in Australia in establishing a Municipal Library on modern lines and in creating a Children's Library, but it yet remains for the Council to house the institution in a building that will reflect credit on the City, and permit of the Library becoming a more active factor in the life of the community." That year the acquisition of a new Library came closer to being realized than at any time before or since, the Council even choosing the site. However, the City Treasurer reported that it would be difficult to raise the necessary finance just then, and shortly afterwards the land was purchased by a private firm. Since this was written, the need for specially designed quarters for the Library has been stressed in Report after Report. In 1942, during the celebration of the Centenary of the Incorporation of Sydney the first definite action was taken, when the Lord Mayor, Alderman (later Sir) Stanley S. Crick, laid the foundation stone of a new Library building. The building was to be erected as soon as conditions returned to normal, but for seventeen years now the stone has lain forgotten and neglected, awaiting the return of this apparently mythical "normality".

The year 1925 saw a great deal of activity, and the sound of hammering and sawing disturbed the comparative quiet of the Library, following Council's decision to instal a bindery in the Library, instead of sending the books out on contract. An extra room was being built on the roof above the Library, which was the only remaining space, and as the machinery and equipment were installed, staff was gradually employed, work starting on 3rd February, 1926. The bindery was not finally completed and occupied until 28th April, 1926.

The following year marked the Jubilee of the Library from its establishment as a separate department of the Free Public Library in 1877. To commemorate its first fifty years of service, the Library arranged a display of old documents, tickets, registers and other items of interest illustrating the history of the Library. At the request of the Library Committee, Mr.

Bertie also compiled a brief history of the Library, which was published by the Council during the Jubilee year. ("A Short History of the Sydney Municipal Library, 1877-1927", by Charles Bertie, F.R.A.H.S., Sydney, 1927).

At the same time the Library commenced the publication of a regular "Monthly Accessions" list. Copies of the first list (November, 1927) were sent to over four hundred business firms, together with a letter asking them if they would display the list in their staff recreation rooms, and offering to supply lists regularly each month should the firm be interested. Surplus copies of the lists were sold to borrowers for 2d. each. In 1928 an extra 2,000 new members registered with the Library, (1927—6,380; 1928—8,319) the increase being directly attributed to the publicity gained by distributing the accession lists. At the end of the year it was decided that the maximum response had probably been achieved, and the lists were discontinued. The monthly accession list of new books was re-introduced from 1940-54, and again in September, 1958, and is still continued.

The Depression Years

At the end of the second decade of the Library two unfortunate trends became apparent. One was the falling-off in the number of children's books issued, the figures for 1929 being nearly 9,000 less than those for the preceding year. This was mainly due to the wholesale resumption of land in the inner City for business purposes, so that more and more families were forced to move to suburbs further out; and also to the gradual elimination of high schools from the city. (Two of the largest schools, Sydney Girls' High and Sydney Boys' High, had both moved out to Moore Park during the 1920's.) The other undesirable trend was the sharp rise in the number of reserve cards issued. These rose from 7,206 in 1928 to 9,604 in 1929, and continued to rise, reaching a record peak of 25,971 in 1944. The obvious conclusion from such figures was that the Library had an inadequate book stock, and a comparison of the Library services in 1930 (on the occasion of its 21st year

under Council patronage), with those provided in 1909-10, showed that this was indeed the case. The number of issues for 1930 was 590,852—more than 11 times the 1910 total of 52,676, yet during those 21 years the stock had not even doubled, being 49,971 in 1930 and 29,244 in 1910. From these figures it can be estimated that whereas each book in the Library in 1910 could be presumed to be borrowed 1.8 times during the year, in 1930 each book would presumably be borrowed 11.8 times—a ratio which would seriously affect the ultimate length of life of the book! A further comparison was made the following year between the Sydney Municipal Library, and the Central Library, Fifth Avenue, New York, on the basis of approximate services. The Central Library with a stock of 86,004 volumes, reached a total of 749,706 issues, while the Sydney Municipal Library, with 53,608 volumes, issued 805,929 books. The conclusions were too obvious to be stated.

Unfortunately, the depression increased this disproportion between issues and stock, and in 1932 a record total of 919,297 issues was reached. At that period the fiction stock only amounted to 11,955 books, and it was quite common for the Library to have as few as 200 books on its fiction shelves when the doors opened each morning, and yet to record nearly 2,000 issues by the end of each day from this section alone. The result was an estimate of just under 33 issues a year for each fiction book!

Although there was still no sign of a new building there was a slight improvement in conditions at the Library during the same year when it became possible to move the Newspaper Room downstairs to its present position on the first floor. This gave both staff and readers greater comfort and space.

The first extension to the Library's services was introduced in 1933, when two hundred juvenile books were deposited at the Frank Saywell Kindergarten at Moore Park Recreation Centre. This experiment proved most successful, and the following year was extended to the Devonshire Street Children's Club. By 1941 there were five

of these "deposit stations" (Camperdown Playground Library, King George V, Moore Park, Coronation and Maybanke), which, with a combined stock of 5,863 volumes, were responsible for 24,438 issues to their 3,212 members.

The Munn-Pitt Report

The year 1934 saw the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Library as a municipal service. During that time 10,420,023 books were borrowed—4,374,941 non-fiction, 4,104,291 fiction and 1,940,791 juvenile. In addition, over 6,000,000 people visited the Newspaper Room. The most interesting event of the year, however, was the joint survey conducted by Ralph Munn, Director of the Carnegie Library in Pittsburgh, and E. R. Pitt, Chief Librarian of the Public Library of Victoria.

On the whole, the Munn-Pitt Report corroborated the views expressed by the Chief Librarian in his Annual Reports. While praising the services offered by the Library, the Report deplored the antiquated unsuitable premises, and the small book stock available. The disproportion between book stock and annual issues was noted, and the decrease in the life of the book stock therefrom was stressed. The two librarians emphasised that a far larger allocation of money was needed to bring the stock up to standard, but they also pointed out that part of the difficulty here lay in the fact that although the Library had to serve a population of 1,250,000 people, only about 88,000 people lived in the City area itself, and it was from this minority that all the Library finance had to come. An analysis of borrowers revealed that over 60% of them lived outside the city municipality, and thus contributed nothing at all to the support of the Library. They further noted that the Library restricted its reference collection to a few "quick reference" books, and made no attempt to supply sets of periodicals, but in view of the excellent reference facilities provided by the Public Library of N.S.W., felt that there was no necessity to alter this policy. The Munn-Pitt Report describes the Library as follows:—

"Sydney is the only one of the five major cities of Australia which main-

tains a rate-supported municipal lending Library . . . (and) . . . deserved credit for assuming this responsibility in a country in which municipal support for libraries is still a rarity . . . The Library is poor and small, but in proportion to its resources it is used as much as city libraries abroad . . . The Sydney Municipal Library is housed in cramped and unattractive quarters on the upper floors of a business building . . . There are no branch Libraries . . . nearly one half of the books are on loan at all times. Fiction comprised only 40% of the number of adult books thus showing a high degree of interest in books of educational and informational value . . . The success of the Sydney Municipal Library in finding an interested clientele far greater than it can serve adequately, leads to the conviction that Sydney should establish a fully developed library system."

The terms of the Report were hardly laudatory, except in their inference that the Library was struggling to provide services far beyond the capacity permitted by the apathetic financial support it received. This was largely true, but since then there has been a great improvement in every respect save one. Financial support has become far better, branch libraries have been established in nearly every area of the city, and book stock has improved. The only deterioration is in the Library itself, which is still housed in the "cramped and unattractive quarters . . . of a business building", rendered still more cramped and unattractive by the passage of a further twenty-five years.

The Second World War

In 1939 the Library widened its scope in an attempt to keep readers advised of the activities available in associated fields. Courses run by the W.E.A., the University Extension Board, the A.B.C. Group Discussions, and similar educational aids were featured, and the Library organised displays at various Playgrounds and Exhibitions. This aspect of Library work still continues to be emphasized.

On 31st July, 1939, Mr. Bertie resigned from the position of Chief Librarian, due

to ill-health. During his thirty years in office he had always striven to improve the status of the Library. From its inauspicious beginning he had seen it become a potential force in the community, and had introduced many modern improvements, such as open access, Dewey classification, a separate Children's Library, a bindery. Mr. Bertie's resignation was greatly regretted by all members of the staff. His position was filled by Mr. F. L. S. Bell, M.A., who is the present City Librarian.

During the War years, the Library, in common with others in Australia, was severely handicapped by the shortage of all types of reading material, and the loss of shipments, although these difficulties were partly overcome by the introduction of the policy of purchasing all fiction books on the secondhand market. As in World War I, there was an increased demand for books on philosophy, religion, fine arts, and natural sciences. Also, due no doubt to the number of people engaged in war work in factories, there was an increase in the number of scientific and technical books issued.

In 1940 the Library began transferring a number of books to a special "dead book" stock. These were books, which, while still of value to the Library, had not been out on loan during the previous 2 years. Such books were still available on request, but their transfer left more space available for those books in regular demand.

The Library also began to build up a pamphlet file at the Inquiry Desk, dealing with current information about the other States in Australia, and those countries bordering the Pacific. Information was provided regularly by all Trade and Tourist Bureaux, and the aim of the Library has been to keep this file as comprehensive and up-to-date as possible.

Shortly after Japan's entry into the War, the Library and the Newspaper Room altered their closing hour to 6.30 p.m. This measure was introduced partly because of the difficulty of blacking out the premises every night, and partly because it was felt that it would be unwise to

encourage people to congregate in the Library after dark. (This was the period when air-raids and submarine attacks were believed to be imminent). However, many munitions and factory employees doing shift work found it difficult or impossible to visit the Library during the curtailed period of opening, so on 30th June, 1942, the Library reverted to its former closing hour of 9 p.m.

From 1942-1945, the City Librarian was serving in H. M. Forces, and the Chief Assistant, Mr. J. V. Flannery, assumed control of the Library. During this period of national tension, and hampered by shortages and restrictions of all kinds, Mr. Flannery not only successfully maintained the *status quo* of the Library, but also managed, in some magical way, to further its growth and development.

Post-war Expansion

In 1946 the Library found itself severely limited by finances, and the City Librarian suggested that the annual estimate for books be increased by £250 per annum for the next five years, until the sum of £3,000 was reached. It was, he pointed out, an anomaly that although the price of books had risen by at least 50% since 1926, no provision had been made for this in the annual estimates.

A check of membership records the following year, revealed that 277,284 individual borrowers had registered at the Library since 1909, excluding all renewals. The current membership was shown to be 34,989, or about one-third of the number considered proportionate to the population requiring service. Juvenile membership had declined, and this was mainly attributed to the opening of libraries in suburban municipalities. Further analyses made in 1948 showed that the ratio of books to readers was 2:1. As 3:1 is the generally accepted ratio, the Library should hold 100,000 books on its present membership — or, if membership should reach the hoped for figure of 100,000, the Library should aim eventually to have a stock of 300,000 volumes. A check was made of withdrawals, also, and revealed the following information:—

4% of books have effective circulation life of 5 years or less.

54% of books have effective circulation life of 6-12 years.

33% of books have effective circulation life of 13-28 years.

9% of books have effective circulation life of 29-40 years.

On 1st January, 1949, the municipality was re-constituted as the Council of the City of Sydney, and incorporated a number of previously independent inner-suburban municipalities. One of the first acts of the new Council was to request the Town Clerk to submit a survey on the possibility of installing branch libraries in the now vacant town halls of the constituent municipalities. This was the first significant move in the development of the Library's branch establishment programme. Newtown Municipal Library, the only Library operating in any of these new City areas, was naturally the first to come under the control of the City Library. Although this control was nominally assumed on 1st January, Newtown Library continued to function as before until early May, when a survey of its organization was made. Various modifications were then introduced to bring its practices into line with those in use at Central, and the final changeover did not take place until towards the end of 1949, when the Library became a fully integrated branch, staffed from the City.

With the introduction of branch libraries, the Cataloguing Staff undertook the preparation of a Union Catalogue of the holdings in Central, branch and Playground Libraries. At the same time, the City Librarian assumed the responsibility of sorting, classifying and arranging a massive accumulation of technical periodicals, pamphlets, etc., which had collected over the years in the City Engineer's Department. On the completion of this task it was decided to establish a model departmental Library for the City Engineer's staff at the Town Hall. The present holdings in this Department were added to the Union Catalogue, and the City Librarian became responsible for all future acquisitions.

Since 1949, there has been rapid progress in the establishment of branches, the following Libraries having been opened—
Alexandria Branch: Opened 16th February 1951.

Paddington Branch (The Frank Green Library): Opened 19th December, 1952.

Surry Hills Branch (The Anthony Doherty Library): Opened 19th May, 1956.

Glebe Branch: Opened 15th September, 1956.

Kings Cross Branch (The Florence Bartley Library): Opened 6th February, 1959.

Mobile Library Service to the Infirm: Commenced 7th December, 1955.

Mobile Branch Library: Commenced 14th January, 1957.

As well as providing the usual Library services, most of these branches also maintain book deposit stations at a number of schools in each area. At the beginning of 1958 the Council also assumed control of the Sydney Information Centre, at the corner of Martin Place and Phillip Street, and the City Librarian became responsible for its administration. The Centre is staffed from the Central Library and provides information on all aspects of Sydney, both for tourists and residents. It also serves as a display and publicity Centre for the Library, and the local information available there has filled a long-felt gap in the City's amenities.

During the first three years of the present decade, there was one major change in reading trends, the use of Foreign Texts having increased over 250% as more and more European migrants arrived in the country. Although the popularity of different sections has naturally varied from time to time, none has shown such a marked variation, especially over such a comparatively short period.

In 1952 there was a further temporary amelioration of the accommodation problem at the Central Library, when the 500 and 600 Dewey divisions were moved down to the first floor, portion of the Newspaper Room being reconstructed to accommodate them. The removal of over 11,000 books, to what now constituted

the Scientific and Technical Department, not only provided extra space in the Main Library, but also enabled the Foreign Texts to be re-organised so that they could be shelved in correct Dewey order alongside their English translations. Simultaneously the opportunity was taken of completely revising the Dewey 940 section dealing with modern European history.

The following year, 1953, a start was made on amalgamating the Central Catalogue, previously divided into author and subject sections, into one complete dictionary catalogue. This task, which involved resorting nearly 250,000 cards, was completed by the end of 1954.

Present Organization of the Library.

All ordering, accessioning, processing, binding, etc., is done centrally, and all catalogue entries are made at the Central Library, being run off in bulk on a Roneo machine, and the necessary copies of the cards, with their books, being sent to the individual libraries. Non-Fiction is ordered mainly from the British National Bibliography and the Publisher's Weekly, and supplied through overseas agents. This enables a thorough check to be kept on what has been published, but also means that new books often appear on the shelves some months after they have become available in the bookshops in Sydney. This means that public interest, often stimulated by a local book review, or a book-seller's display, and notoriously ephemeral, may have waned by the time the book is available.

The officers-in-charge of branch libraries are sent a monthly list, selected from the B.N.B., from which they can choose non-fiction according to their monthly allocation of money. The branches can thus cater for the special requirements of their district, and the organization of the Central Cataloguing Department is simplified, as all copies of a book are processed at the same time. The disadvantage is, of course, that frequently a choice has to be made between several books on the one subject without being able to examine the books and compare their relative merits.

Australian books are ordered from the "Books Published in Australia" list published monthly by the National Library in Canberra (with the same advantages and disadvantages as referred to for non-fiction). Fiction is bought centrally, direct from the wholesalers, and copies are allocated to the branches from the Central Library. Children's books are all centrally ordered, processed and allocated, but the Children's Cataloguing section is quite separate from the adult one. Periodicals are centrally ordered, processed and allocated.

The officers-in-charge of the branches may, however, suggest any purchases, changes in periodical subscriptions, or variation in the emphasis of the book

selection policy, which seem desirable. Also, borrowers can obtain suggestion cards on which they can suggest books which they feel should be purchased. Space is provided on the back of the cards covering "Reasons for Recommending", and a large percentage of books suggested is purchased.

The above outline of the history and development of the City of Sydney Public Library is necessarily brief. For the full story of this Library's change from a single library unit to a fully co-ordinated library system servicing the capital city of Sydney, readers are referred to "The Annual Reports of the City Librarian", copies of which are available in the principal libraries of the Commonwealth.

Appendix II

TRIENNIAL STATISTICAL SURVEY OF CITY OF SYDNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1909-1957

Year	No. of Borrowers Registered	Total Book Stock	Issues	Daily Average	Juvenile Issues	Books Handled by Bindery	Expenditure £	Income (Fines, Subsidy, Etc.)
1909	No record	26,313	12,275	—	—	—	2,788	96
1910	Figure for period 1910-12 is 11,253	29,244	52,767	175	—	—	4,470	44
1913	1913: 31-10-14 is 10,915	No record	108,930	464	—	—	4,752	120
1916	†19,645	27,073	220,129	705	—	—	5,247	251
1919	*19,817	32,676	379,059	1,334	—	—	8,957	312
1922	†31,904	40,632	426,867	1,488	102,045	—	11,572	508
1925	*20,707	48,288	460,654	1,572	103,546	—	13,496	691
1926	1926 yr. of opening	—	—	—	—	11,618	—	—
1928	†27,374	48,385	478,211	1,599	88,908	—	14,426	768
1931	†40,966	53,608	805,929	2,750	105,996	—	12,946	1,230
1934	*32,041	50,517	719,915	2,399	95,533	—	12,683	1,196
1937	†36,354	48,824	562,562	1,933	73,603	—	13,247	1,059
1940	*33,954	57,720	558,626	1,843	93,633	—	13,097	1,220
1943	†32,789	67,186	519,912	1,750	115,774	—	12,783	1,746
1946	*27,863	67,519	450,415	1,501	73,040	—	16,208	4,592
1949	†36,115	98,074	463,899	1,588	67,901	19,753	30,960	†4,869
1952	*33,570	129,432	698,085	2,303	—	24,193	65,790	†24,500
1955	†38,672	146,467	688,994	2,367	160,108	32,345	89,956	†18,542
1957	†51,163	187,618	1,062,304	3,506	225,512	41,312	98,526	†19,051
1958	*36,253	199,015	960,207	3,169	179,698	40,303	105,731	†18,521

† For 2-year period, and includes previous year.

* Covers one year only

‡ Does not include capital expenditure on new building.

* Children's Librarians for Children's Libraries?

By MRS. JOAN M. ELDRIDGE, Children's
Library Officer, Free Library Service
Board of Victoria

All Children's Librarians should judge at least one Essay competition in Library, or Book Week. Having resisted the initial impulse to rush out and shoot themselves, they will find a great deal of value in assessing the results. They will find themselves viewing their borrowers with a fresh eye, and also, it is hoped, looking hard at their policy of book selection.

The latest such competition which I have just judged was for children over eight years and under twelve, and the subject was "The three books I would take with me if I were alone on an island". It was a State-wide competition, and it is significant I think, that all entries came from districts with Library services, most were from the Metropolitan area, and private schools and colleges made up a large proportion of the entries. In fact the standard from private schools, not necessarily colleges, was rather higher than those from the State primaries. The five essays from which I made my final choice were all from private schools, with the exception of one from a small country school. The influence of both home and school on the reading habits of these children was very noticeable, that of the Municipal Library not always quite so obvious. For instance, when consistently good and original entries each year are received from one school, and poor entries

from a similar school in the same area, the influence on the children can be assumed to be more likely from the school library, and/or home, than the local Municipal Library which serves them both. These results highlight quite dramatically, at times, the definite influence for good that a particular adult can have on the reading habits of children.

One interesting feature was an unself-conscious attitude to religion, which was apparent in the entries from many different types of schools, and the merits of the Bible, New Testament or some form of prayer book was considered quite seriously by the older children. Some of course, chose such books at the obvious prompting of a teacher, but others conveyed a sincerity of approach which was enlightening. It is impossible of course, to use such competitions as a reliable guide in assessing the popularity or worth of a particular book. The prevalence of a particular title is probably not a reflection of a completely free choice, but rather an indication of the limited stock in the particular library patronised by the reader, or even a poor standard of selection. Nevertheless, it was both interesting and heartening to see that "Little Women" was still one of the most popular stories with the girls. Probably its popularity has been increased by the recent film, but undoubtedly it had been read and is greatly loved. These children dispel any doubts that basic human values alter from generation to generation. "The appeal of this book to me is in the everyday home-life incidents." Or another child finds the characters "are so alive to me . . . that I would always feel when I opened this book that these friends were with

* N.B.: It was resolved by the Children's Library Section at the Brisbane Conference in 1955 that the title "Children's Librarian" be used only by "librarians with a general qualification in librarianship (Registration) including a special qualification in children's librarianship, and a requisite period of experience in employment". The term mentioned was two years.

me on the island." "I could share their happy family life and not feel lonely." The girls in "Little Women" are obviously as alive and interesting to the children of today as they were to Miss Alcott's contemporaries.

After the initial sorting, in which the majority of essays had to be rejected, I was left with a hard core which certainly lifted my spirits. Here were children who were just beginning to look beyond the story content of their books, who were beginning to realize, albeit dimly, or in a manner they could not quite express on paper, that literature was helping them to face life with courage. They selected their books carefully, not in the hope they would help them evade their environment, but in order to surround themselves with loving friends, or heroes whose courage in adversity they felt they could emulate. How rich is the young girl who chose "above all other books" the "Wind in the Willows", "The Hobbit" and "Traveller in Time". But how unhappily rare such children were!

Several alarming factors emerged from these essays — factors of which Children's Libraries should perhaps be more vitally aware. It is reasonable to suppose that the children entering such competitions are those who are at least aware of books and libraries, and the apparent failure of Children's Libraries noticeably to improve their taste is disturbing. There are of course, those children who send in entries as part of a class project, but because of their disarming honesty these entrants are fairly easily recognized. For example, one child said doubtfully, "I choose Treasure Island as my second book. Mummy has told me it is a very nice book, and I think it would be too, I think I would like it if I read it." Some of the children obviously knew the books selected by titles only, and had apparently never read three books they would care to take with them to an island. "Kidnapped", for instance, was quoted by several children who had not the slightest idea of the plot, so happily made one up, complete with gangsters, midnight rides in stolen cars and screaming police sirens! But far

more disturbing than these, were the entries from children who *do* read, and who *are* acquainted with a Library. The reading of these children is being influenced — but not by Children's Librarians; or let us add in all honesty — we *hope* not by Children's Librarians.

What did the majority of these children offer as their proposed solace in solitude? Far too many, particularly the girls, still do not move beyond books such as the Cherry Ames series, the Bobbsey Twins, etc. It is tragic to think that these inadequate books are those from which our young people are deriving their philosophy of life. To those who maintain that these books are "harmless", it can be justifiably pointed out that the social attitudes and banal platitudinous outlook on life which come from these readers are anything but harmless. The distorted view of life and its problems which the children absorb from these books were constantly given back through their essays as their own. From two children widely removed from each other, in two different competitions, I received the following, "There was this man Goon, who is a policeman, and is very fat. He thinks he can solve the mysteries, but he can't because he is so stupid and the children have to solve them for him. They are very clever children." "They have very, very mysterious times and are always getting into trouble with the village policeman who is jealous because the five find-outers and their dog solve all mysteries and he can't solve any of them. They have solved many mysteries and are very clever children". Blyton seems to be losing ground however, possibly because of an active campaign to remove her books from library shelves, and also because the children are beginning to rebel against the sameness of her plots and characters. It seems to me a confession of complete inadequacy on the part of an adult when she offers to a child any book which is so lacking in style, vivacity and value, that it has to be given the negative virtue of "Harmlessness".

Perhaps, on the other hand, Children's Librarians are at fault in that we are so concerned with keeping shoddy books

away from children that we neglect the far more important and more difficult task of bringing good books to them! Are we, in effect, far too negative in our approach? Seemingly adults as a whole have managed to impress upon children that they can't just like a book—they don't read merely for pleasure, but must gain some positive virtue from their reading. We know that in the long run, and inadvertently, they do indeed gain in stature from their reading if they read well and widely, but the tactful guidance exerted on the child reader should never be too obvious, or cramping. Surely we should avoid using the term "good" in describing a book to a child. If some books are "good" then others must be "bad", but where a Librarian may use these words as inadequate gauges of aesthetic values a child understands them on a different level, with resultant confusion, and perhaps a loss of confidence in the Librarian's ability to judge a book. One boy tried to explain away his liking for war books and to gain approval for it by saying he felt they were "good" for him. From his writing, a confusion and indeed conflict, was apparent, and not once did he use the words "exciting", "thrilling", or even "inspiring". It was not because he was too young to use such words, but that he was consciously avoiding using them in case they prejudiced his case. It is more than likely that he had experienced these emotions through other adventure books, perhaps the Biggles series, only to be told that these books were not "good", or were even "bad". When a child is told that books by Blyton or Johns are "bad" he becomes confused, often thinking that adults for some obscure reason, frown upon adventure and excitement and a desire for a hero. He tries to view books from the point of view of an adult and so attempts to disguise his liking for sheer excitement in pious statements about "good" reading, without ever fully understanding in what sense these words are applied to books. Children's Librarians then should endeavour to introduce him to the many books which fulfil all his desires for action and excitement, but which also fulfil our demands for literary and aesthetic quality.

There are such books, and it is not only our duty, but should also be our pleasure to read and recommend them.

The growing influence of American films, comics, radio programmes and possibly TV was depressingly evident, particularly among the very few New Australian entrants. Few children evinced much interest in or knowledge of their own country's literature, and statements such as "It is a book about the first world war, when the Americans were fighting the Germans", "'Black Beauty' is very popular throughout Australia, and indeed the whole United States" make one wonder what we are doing to introduce migrant children to our rich literary heritage. It is natural that they would be more affected by the prevalent Americanisms of mass media of communication, for not only do they lack the tradition of English children's literature, but they find difficulty in reading in English. But expressions such as "for free", "meet with" were all too common throughout all the essays.

Interesting sidelights on the migrant's approach to libraries and family social structure can perhaps be profitably noted by Librarians when they attempt to understand an apparent lack of interest. "If you are too poor to own books, a Library would be helpful", "A Library can have magazines for ladies, and all sorts of books for men and children." All the New Australian entries, not that there were so many of them, evinced a serious, somewhat impatient attitude to reading, and to life—the imaginative approach was not for them!

To my mind, one of the most disquieting factors in the whole competition was the frequency with which a timidity and lack of initiative was revealed. It found expression in such terms as "I'd be scared", "it would be creepy", "I'd pretend it was a dream", "I hope the day won't come when I'm alone on a creepy island". "I'd pick this book because it doesn't remind me of the island", "it would be uncomfortable", "I don't think the ground would be as cosy as your bed and little pillow", "I wouldn't hunt for food because the animals would be terrible big, and I don't

think they would just give themselves up without a struggle". One very worried child expressed his fears, "I certainly wouldn't like to be on an island alone, and these books might just keep my mind on other things for a while, but what might a person do after they had finished those books? After, I suppose I'd have to think about being rescued and other worries". I lost count of the times children mentioned, "I'd be bored", "it would be terribly boring". Only one boy saw in the hypothetical situation any sort of challenge to his imagination and ingenuity, and that I think, is the most saddening fact of all. He stated "I'd just have to use my own brains. I'd have to be both Robinson Crusoe and Man Friday rolled into one." Incidentally he was the only one also to accept the role of Crusoe *without* Man Friday. Most simply refused to accept the fact they could be alone, and quickly peopled their island with a variety of people. One cautious child wanted for his third book a "half-Atlas and half-how-to-make things book", so he could build a boat and know where to sail to!

What then are the inferences which can be drawn from this cross-section of opinion on reading from children? Have we as adults failed to help children appreciate the challenge of life—are we content as Children's Librarians to let their imaginations stultify? Seemingly so, from the books we are content to see them reading—books which should have no place on any libraries' shelves. Children's Librarians seem to lack an effective approach in order to introduce the children to the best books available—books which will help them to cope with life and to accept problems as something to be solved, not ignored or evaded. Almost all demanded excitement in their reading. This is a legitimate desire, but one which too many Children's Librarians find it easy to assuage by giving the poorer type of book which caters for it on the lowest level. Why is it that stolen treasures, kidnapping by sinister gypsies, criminals and miscellaneous gangsters are thought to be suitable, "harmless" reading for young minds? We must realize that it is within our power

to show children that "excitement" is not confined to inferior literature with stock situations and hackneyed characterization. One lucky child had discovered this fact, and was obviously entranced by her discovery of the *Odyssey*, though she did give the author as "After Homes".

In "*Work With Children in Public Libraries*", by E. Power, it is said that "the main purposes of organization of work with children in a public library are to provide, maintain and promote professional service to and for children in the entire community". Children's Librarians could well ask themselves if this aim is always kept in mind. Have we a consciousness of the importance and responsibilities of our profession?

How many of us have competently surveyed our district and analysed the proportion of children using the library? There is a large number of migrant children in need of our services—have they any chance of being introduced to the best in our literature, or are they to be left to comics and films?

Failure to reach the children is not wholly the fault of the Children's Librarian, but also due to the lack of planning in developing the services. In this State, as in others, we are faced with the unhappy prospect of Children's Libraries without Children's Librarians. While Councils have been educated to the desirability of providing Library Service to local children, they are not yet fully aware of the necessity of trained staff to operate such services. It would be unthinkable to provide modern schools, and then make no provision for trained teachers, but a similar situation in libraries raises no eyebrows. If the Assistants in these Children's Libraries have the enthusiasm, ability and dedication necessary to pursue Children's Work as a profession what are the opportunities for adequate professional training? If we use the words "adequate" and "professional", then the answer is in the negative. In Victoria some lectures are available in preparation for R10 at the Library School, but it is manifestly impossible to incorporate into the limited time available a detailed study of Children's Literature,

the conducting of Story Hours, Book Talks, Reader's Guidance, Publicity, Activities, special cataloguing needs and other problems with which a Children's Librarian will be faced when organizing her department. Nor are groups of children available for practical demonstrations. Fortunately it is planned to extend this course this year; and it is hoped to widen the coverage of the lectures.

In an effort to give some measure of guidance to those librarians in country areas who are faced with serving children with no trained Children's Librarian on the staff, The Free Library Service Board of Victoria last year instituted a series of three to four day "Schools" which were held in different Regional Centres to which not only the staff of the headquarters' Library came, but also Branch Librarians and voluntary helpers who staff deposit stations. Wangaratta, Echuca and Geelong were the three centres selected

for the experiment, and they were sufficiently successful to encourage us to plan for an extension of the scheme in the coming years. In May of this year, the Board in conjunction with the Library Association of Victoria, and the Victorian Division of the Children's Library Section of the L.A.A. will hold a two-day Children's Library Seminar.

All these things are portents of an increasing awareness that the Children's Librarian must be prepared to equip herself if the profession is to contribute satisfactorily to the development of a well read community of children. To date our major effort has been employed in obtaining books and buildings for children. Now is the time, surely, for our efforts to be re-appraised and our promotion activities re-shaped to include, as a primary aim, the creation of a body of Children's Librarians, fully professional in training and in service.

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Mervyn Peake, Book-Illustrator, and a Check-List of his Works

G. A. J. FARMER

An article on Mervyn Peake can do no better than to open with a comment of Frank Eyre's in "20th Century children's books": "Peake is one of the most original draughtsmen now working with children's books, and his illustrations have often a quality of inspired interpretation. His set of drawings for Grimm's Household Tales, for example, is the finest since Cruikshank."

Notwithstanding Eyre's appraisal, Peake's book illustration is not as well known as that of say Kiddell—Monroe or Ardizzone, the reasons for which lie altogether outside any question of artistic ability. Peake's interests are not only in book illustration: his main work is as an artist, drawing and painting, as well as writing poetry, novels and a play. This lack of concentration upon a particular art form, means that an assessment of his work in any one field can be difficult to make, because of the dispersion of his talent.

Apart from his own works, Peake has illustrated sixteen books, of which few are inspiring and exciting enough to stimulate his best work. The exceptions, like "*Household Tales*", "*Alice in Wonderland*", and "*Rime of the Ancient Mariner*", show what he can do with suitable texts. An illustration from "*Rime of the Ancient Mariner*", reproduced in Sean Jenne's "*The making of books*", showing a kneeling mariner clasping the dead albatross, has an eerie pathos that is unique in contemporary illustration.

No illustrator can do his best work to a mediocre text, nor can he be fairly judged until he has had a chance to interpret great writing, and perhaps be

compared with a previous illustrator whose name is now synonymous with that book. A critic has regretted that Peake has not illustrated "*Don Quixote*", which would give scope to his ability, and a chance to be measured against Dore, with whom he shows some affinity.

Peake's illustrations have a mastery of line, and show "inspired interpretation", but in addition to these qualities they have also a startling individuality, almost a grotesquerie, which makes them easily recognisable, and probably arouses some prejudice against them. The fantastic worlds he has created by line and word in "*Captain Slaughterboard drops anchor*" and "*Letters from a lost uncle*" could be thought too bizarre by unimaginative book selectors, forgetful of a child's appreciation of the absurd and imaginative. Similarly, by word alone, in "*Titus Groan*" and "*Gormenghast*", Peake has created a vast Gothic castle of the imagination, inhabited by unforgettable characters. In all his work, shapes and ideas mingle, resulting in something distinctive and compelling.

A final reason for Peake's lack of audience (in Australia, anyway), is that too many of his earlier books were poorly produced, with cheap casings and indifferent paper. Some of this is due to war-time conditions, but it means that they do not provide a suitable setting for his illustrations, nor have they had much chance to survive physically. A collector is intrigued and excited by this fact, but it makes an evaluation of Peake's work so much more difficult.

Two of the critics who have examined his drawings have passed judgments worthy of reprinting. As he spent the first

twelve years of his life in China, one critic suggests that his Welsh ancestry, combined with his early life in China, are of importance in determining some of the characteristics of his art. From Wales he gets a Celtic love of the sinuous, twisting line, as in "*Quest for Sita*", and from China an Oriental love of flat decorative colour, as in "*Rhymes without reason*". A startled critic in *Spectator*, commenting on an exhibition in 1938, said "The line has a quality as lovely as that of Cocteau", and that the drawings "stream straight apparently from an imagination which must be in a very odd state". The last remark is a little unkind, but understandable on a first meeting.

MERVYN PEAKE A PRELIMINARY CHECK-LIST

Books by Mervyn Peake

1. Captain Slaughterboard drops anchor. London, Country Life, 1939. Children's story. Ill. by the author.
2. Shapes and sounds. London, Chatto & Windus, 1941. Poems.
3. Same. New York, Transatlantic, 1941.
4. Same. Toronto, Macmillan, 1941.
5. Rhymes without reason. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1944. Children's verse. Ill. in colour by the author.
6. Captain Slaughterboard drops anchor. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1945. (A new edition with coloured illustrations, of the original book, published 1939, the stocks of which were destroyed, presumably when Paternoster Row was bombed and burnt.)
7. Craft of the lead pencil. London, Wingate, 1946.
8. Titus Groan. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1948. Novel.
9. Same. New York, Reynal & Hitchcock, 1946.
10. Same. Toronto, Collins, 1946.
11. Same. Economy edition. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1947.
12. Letters from a lost uncle. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1948. Children's story. Ill. by the author.
13. Same. Toronto, Collins, 1948.

14. Drawings by Mervyn Peake. London, Grey Walls Press, 1949.
15. Same. New York, British Book Centre, 1949.
16. The glassblowers. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1950. Poems.
17. Same. Toronto, Collins, 1950.
18. Gormenghast. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1950. Novel. Sequel to "Titus Groan".
19. Same. New York, British Book Centre, 1950.
20. Same. Toronto, Collins, 1950.
21. Mr. Pye. London, Heinemann, 1953. Novel.
22. Figures of speech. London, Gollancz, 1954. Drawings. Also: Supplementary Sheet—N.S. 462, 8" x 30", from Gollancz, announcing the above book.

Illustrations to books.

23. Ride a cock horse, and other nursery rhymes. London, Chatto & Windus, 1940.
(One of the very few examples of stencilled colour in a contemporary commercial book, issued at a low price.)
24. Carroll, L. The hunting of the snark. London, Chatto & Windus, 1941.
25. Coleridge, S. T. The rime of the ancient mariner. London, Chatto & Windus, 1943.
26. Joad, C. E. M. The adventures of the young soldier in search of the better world. London, Faber, 1943.
"Better that the artist had sent the author in search of a better text." The first impression has grey boards. The fifth impression, published in 1945, is cased in red.
27. Same. New York, Arco, 1944.
28. Same. Toronto, Ryerson Press, 1943.
29. Laing, A. M. Prayers and graces. London, Gollancz, 1944.
30. Hole, C. Witchcraft in England. London, Batsford, 1945.
31. Same. Toronto, Clarke, Irwin, 1945.
32. Same. New York, Scribner, 1947.
33. Collis, M. Quest for Sita of Hanuman

- and divine vultures, Jatayus and Sampata. London, Faber, 1946. Limited to 500 copies.
34. Same. New York, Day, 1947.
 35. Brothers Grimm . . . Household tales. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1946.
 36. Carroll, L. The hunting of the snark. London, Zodiac Books, 1948. A new edition of No. 24 above.
 37. Stevenson, R. L. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. London, Folio Society, 1948.
 38. Coleridge, S. T. The rime of the ancient mariner. London, Zodiac Books, 1949. A new edition of No. 25 above.
 39. Haynes, D. K. Thou shalt not suffer a witch. London, Methuen, 1949.
 40. Stevenson, R. L. Treasure Island. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1949.
 41. Drake, B. The book of Lyonne. London, Falcon Press, 1952.
 42. Carroll, L. Alice's adventures in Wonderland, and Through the Looking Glass. London, Wingate, 1954.
 43. Sander, A. Men: a dialogue between women. London, Cresset Press, 1955.
 44. Niklaus, T. Harlequin Phoenix. London, Bodley Head, 1956. Jacket design and frontispiece only.
 45. Laing, A. M. More prayers and graces. London, Gollancz, 1957.
 46. Wyss, J. The Swiss Family Robinson. London, Heirloom Library, n.d.
 47. Gissing, G. New Grub Street, London, Oxford U. Press, 1948. Jacket design only.
- There have also been two other books announced, with illustrations by Mervyn Peake, but I can find no trace of their publication. A Swedish edition of "Alice and Through the looking glass", which probably has the same illustrations as No. 42 above, and an edition of "Bleak House" for John Murray.
- Miscellany, published separately*
48. Walter de la Mare. Portait. London Mercury 35: 165, December, 1936.
 49. Coloured money. Poem. London Mercury 36: 325, August, 1937. Reprinted in No. 2 with textual alteration.
 50. The metal bird. Poem. London Mercury 36: 325-6, August 1937.
 51. Rhondda Valley. Poem. London Mercury 36: 507-9, October, 1937. Illustrated by Mervyn Peake. Reprinted in No. 2 with textual alteration, and without illustrations.
 52. Overture. Poem. London Mercury 39: 285-6, January, 1939. Reprinted in No. 2, as "If I could see, nor surfaces", with textual alteration.
 53. Where shielded only in the upper air. Poem. Living Age 357: 429, January, 1940.
 54. The spadesmen. Poem. Spectator 167: 81, July 25, 1941. Reprinted in No. 2.
 55. The two fraternities. Poem. Spectator 167: 130, August 8, 1941. Reprinted in No. 2.
 56. London 1941. Poem. Spectator 167: 555, December 12, 1941. First published in No. 2, November 1941. Reprinted here with textual alteration.
 57. The cocky' walkers. Poem In "Poems of our time, 1900-1942", chosen by R. Church and M. Bozman. London, Dent, 1945. Reprinted from No. 2
 58. My arms are rivers heavy with raw flood. Poem. Life and Letters 56: 235, March, 1948.
(One of the poems in No. 16, entitled "Poem" commences with this line, but as the texts have not been compared, it is not possible to state definitely that they are the same.)
 59. I watched where the tall trees shook. Poem. Spectator 180: 613, May 21, 1948.
 60. Illustrating for books. Design 50: 22-3, November, 1948.
 61. Titus Groan. An essay with drawings, on the evolution of the novel. (See No. 8.) In "A new romantic anthology", edited by S. K. Schimanski and H. Treece. London, Grey Walls Press, 1949.
 62. Blackwood, A. The wendigo. A story, illustrated by Mervyn Peake. Lilliput, January-February, 1952.

63. Boy in darkness. A story. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1956. In "Sometime never": three tales of imagination. (This has also been republished as a paper-back, but I cannot trace the edition.)
64. London fantasy. Illustrated article, (?).
- Articles on Mervyn Peake*
65. Sarzano, F. The book illustrations of Mervyn Peake. Alphabet and Image, I: 19-37, Spring, 1946.
66. Denvir, B. Mervyn Peake. Studio 132: 88-90, September, 1946.
67. Metzl, E. Ghosts and things by Mervyn Peake. American Artist 19: 24-29, February, 1955.
68. Wit to woo. Criticism of a play by Mervyn Peake—"Wit to woo". Illustrated London News 230: 470, March 23, 1957.
- (Having not seen this particular issue of Illustrated London News, I know of no details of this play.

References in:

69. Brophy, J. The mind's eye. London, Barker, 1949.
70. Eyre, F. 20th Century children's books. London, Longmans, 1952.
71. Newnham, A. Catalogue No. 5. First editions. Corfe Castle, Dorset, 1957. Contains nineteen items of Mervyn Peake's.

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Loan Records in a Small Scientific Library

By G. G. ALLEN, M.A. (Oxon)

Librarian, C.S.I.R.O. Sheep Biology Laboratory, Prospect, N.S.W., Australia.

The Library of the C.S.I.R.O. Sheep Biology Laboratory, Prospect, N.S.W., serves some thirty research workers and their assistants, specializing in biological and agricultural sciences. The library staff comprises a librarian and two assistants, with occasional clerical aid from the Laboratory's administrative staff.

Located some twenty miles west of Sydney, the Laboratory is sufficiently distant from the principal libraries and other scientific institutions of New South Wales to prevent personal use of those facilities by the research staff. For similar reasons, the Library serves only the laboratory staff, occasional readers from elsewhere being rare.

Although this situation has, in some degree, encouraged the expansion of library holdings during the six years of its existence and the library now houses runs of some length of the journals of major interest and has also been able to subscribe to a range of the less easily obtainable serials, yet there is still a considerable dependence upon the resources of other libraries, both within the C.S.I.R.O. and elsewhere, in particular for the older and more specialized material, and in fields marginal or remotely related to the chief activities of the Laboratory. In the Sydney area arrangements to borrow or lend are made twice weekly when a carrier delivers and collects for the Laboratory. From further afield arrangements are made through the post.

The extent of these external borrowings has increased steadily from 323 items during 1954 to 683 in 1958, and there is every indication that with the continuing growth in the number of research workers borrowings will also continue to increase. Loans to other libraries have not been great in the past, due largely to a lack of knowledge of the holdings of the Sheep Biology Laboratory Library. Now that this

knowledge is becoming widely available loans to outside borrowers are more frequent and can also be expected to multiply in the future.

No statistics have previously been kept for internal loans, but they number many times the total of external loans.

For some years minimal loan records had been maintained and while the Laboratory was in its infancy these were adequate. However, the rapid growth in staff clearly indicated the need for more complete records. After enquiries in other similarly placed libraries, the following system of recording and checking loans was evolved.

It was desired to keep a record of each loan according to title, borrower and date borrowed, and at the same time to distinguish the several distinct categories of loans made through the Library. Simplicity and economy were also factors to be considered.

Four categories of loans have been established to meet the varying needs of borrowers. Each category is distinguished by use of a different coloured loan card. "Ordinary" loans are recorded on white cards and are normally returnable within one month. "Long" loans are for a six month period, to meet the needs of workers using a text or reference in the course of an extended experiment, and are recorded on green cards. In certain special cases, e.g., some hand-books, tables or technical reference works, "Permanent Locations" may be made. These are noted on the catalogue card and a pink card is also inserted in the loans file. The fourth category is for "External Borrowings". These are entered on blue cards and are checked for return after two weeks.

Cards in all these categories are interfiled in one sequence of authors and titles. For each loan a separate card is made for

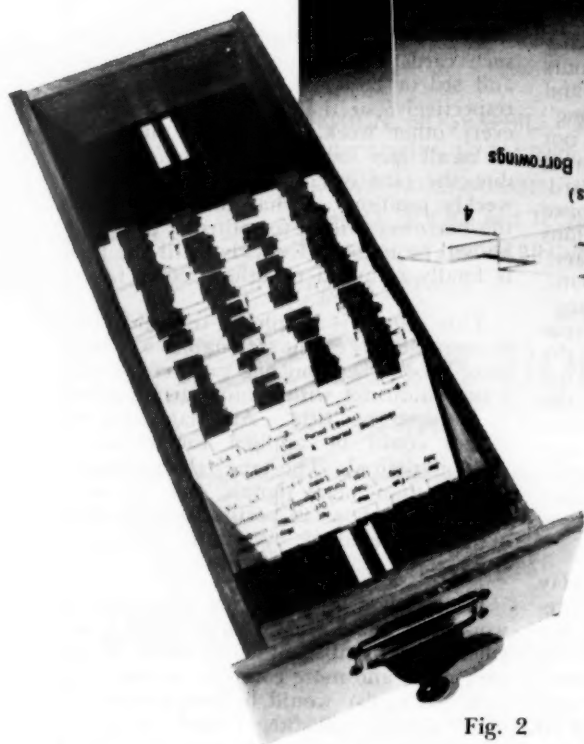


Fig. 2

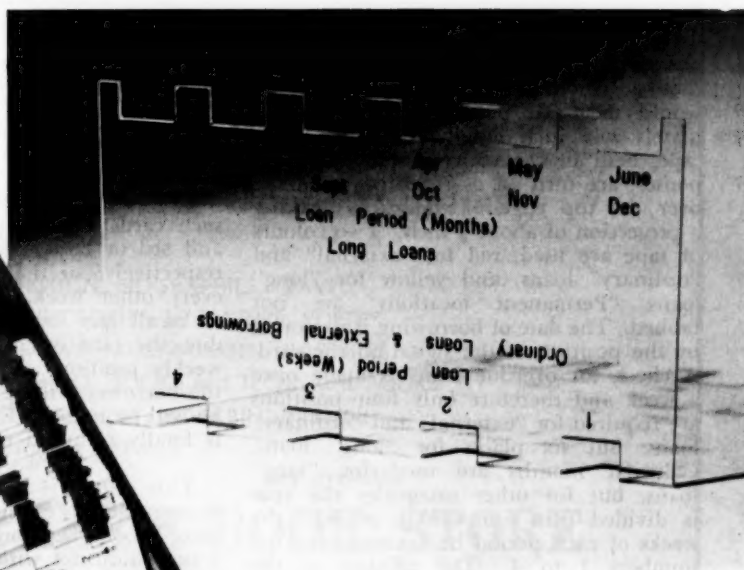


Fig. 1

filing under the borrower's name, as required for audit purposes. This procedure, though somewhat laborious, is a useful double check and also has applications when borrowers go on leave, or at stocktaking, etc., when it is desired to recall all loans from any individual.

The primary loan record is filed under one sequence of authors and titles to facilitate rapid location of items on loan. It was therefore necessary to determine some means of quick indication of date of bor-

rowing to enable a periodic check of overdue loans without the tedious examination of all cards. It was also necessary to distinguish between loans made for differing periods. Thus "external borrowings", "ordinary" loans and "long" loans are recallable after 2 weeks, 4 weeks, and 6 months respectively.

Conventional tabbing of cards with metal signals was rejected on two grounds: inconvenience in fixing and instability of these signals when they became worn.

Marking with coloured ink was also considered but thought insufficiently distinct for our purposes. Finally, it was decided that tabs of coloured adhesive cellulose tape would meet all requirements. Approximately one inch lengths of $\frac{3}{8}$ " cellulose tape, held in the conventional office dispenser, are torn off as required and fixed over the top edge of the card allowing a projection of about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Two colours of tape are used, red for "external" and "ordinary" loans, and yellow for "long" loans. "Permanent locations" are not tabbed. The date of borrowing is indicated by the position of the signal on the card. A check for overdue loans is made once a week and therefore only four positions are required for "external" and "ordinary" loans, but six places for "long" loans. Calendar months are used for "long" loans, but for other categories the year is divided into four-weekly periods, the weeks of each period being designated by numbers 1 to 4. The affixing of the signals in the correct position is assured by the use of a transparent perspex template (Fig. 1), notched on one edge for the four weekly periods, and on the other edge for the six months, January to June and July to December.

Overdue loans are checked each Monday morning when the cards that have previously been tabbed in the position for the current week are removed from the file and sorted according to borrowers. Overdue notices are then made out and the cards refiled. On the first Monday in each calendar month the six-monthly loans are similarly checked. Any loan for which

a renewal is required is simply refiled so that it comes up for a further check after a second loan period; there is no need to alter the signal in any way.

To reduce the length of time that "external borrowings" are retained at the Laboratory, these are checked after a fortnight. This is achieved by tabbing all such cards in two positions, on the 1st and 3rd or 2nd and 4th weekly positions respectively, so that they are withdrawn every other week. When it is necessary to recall any item specially, before it is due, the card is tabbed in each of the 4 weekly positions so that in the event of the borrower failing to return it promptly he will be reminded weekly until the loan is finally returned or other action taken.

This system is simple to use and clear in operation (Fig. 2). It enables a double record to be kept on one card, combining a time indicator with a filing arrangement by author or title. Alternatively, the system could be applied to borrowers' cards if desired. The tape tabs are easier to affix than metal signals, and are more permanently fixed in position though they are easily removed by simple cutting if necessary.

It is not considered that this method would be ideal for a large library but where the number of daily loans is not over many and more complex systems (e.g. punched cards) would be unwarranted, it offers certain advantages and introduces an element of order into what can easily become an untidy or neglected record.

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Institute on Cataloging Code Revision, Stanford University, 1958

A RESUME OF THE SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

By MARJORIE M. THOMPSON, B.EC.

Cataloguers the world over are awaiting with great interest the Revised edition of the American Library Association, *Cataloging Rules for Author and Title entries*. Since 1954 the Cataloging Code Revision Committee of the Cataloging and Classification Section of the American Library Association has been working, through its Steering Committee, on a draft-code submitted by Seymour Lubetzky, Specialist in Bibliography and Cataloging Policy, Library of Congress.

A cataloguer's dream is a code that is simple, direct, without ambiguity or need for particular interpretation, and one which will lead to uniformity of Entry. In the past there has been little uniformity even in the United States, so it is very encouraging to find that the guiding principle of the proposed new rules is to produce "a logical and self-consistent code".

An extremely important conference on the draft revised code which should be of interest to all Australian librarians, particularly cataloguers, was the Institute on Cataloging Code Revision held at Stanford University, July 9-12, 1958. The Institute was sponsored by the Cataloging and Classification Section of the Resources and Technical Services Division of the American Library Association and The Stanford University Libraries. Here were brought together a very select group of specialists whose opinions and suggestions were sought on controversial issues in the tentative draft of the proposed new code. There were 181 registered members of the Institute including representatives from each of the following countries outside the United States of America:—Great Britain

Germany, India, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan and the Virgin Islands. The Steering Committee on Cataloging Code Revision, realizing the importance of the Institute to all librarians, decided to publish the "Summary of proceedings" of the Institute. It is an intensely interesting document and one which should receive the widest circulation. Wyllis E. Wright, Chairman of the Steering Committee of Cataloging Code Revision Presided at all sessions. The Partial and tentative draft and the Papers by individual Specialists on the main sections of the draft had been previously distributed, so each session followed the pattern of a Summary of the relevant paper by the author, followed by discussion and a summing up by the Chairman. In the foreword to the Draft, Seymour Lubetzky states that the draft "attempts to define and explain the objectives which the proposed code undertakes to serve, to analyze and identify the bibliographical conditions and problems encountered in cataloging, and to formulate a body of principles and rules which will indicate how the problems may be met and the objectives achieved. The draft is designed primarily for the larger research library where the catalog must function as a bibliographic instrument—to provide effective guidance to the library's resources, to help the library perform its bibliographic services, and to enable it to participate in co-operative bibliographic undertakings. The proposed rules are to be applied with modifications (to be provided later) in the smaller popular library, whose objectives, resources, and bibliographic services are more limited". It was also stated that the sections included in the draft had previously been circulated

for comment to the British Library Association Cataloguing Rules Sub-committee and similar organizations in other countries, in addition to the interested bodies in the United States of America.

Eight sessions were held and the general impression gained from the *Summary of Proceedings* is that discussion was lively and constructive. In his opening remarks at the First session the Chairman, Wyllis E. Wright, announced that the Library of Congress was willing to test the proposed revised code. A group of cataloguers would be assigned to catalogue incoming material according to the proposed rules. The project should reveal whether or not the rules are easily interpreted and whether the resultant entries are satisfactory. In summarizing his paper on the "General philosophy and structure of the code", Wyllis E. Wright urged the group to consider particularly, in the discussion, two points:—

"(1) The decision of the Committee to have prepared a logical, self-consistent code representing what the profession at this time considers to be the best possible statement of rules, ignoring present practices when they are in conflict with the best ways of handling the problems and without giving consideration to administrative policy decisions concerning recataloging.

(2) The question of the use of permissive words and indefinite phrases in the statement of the rules. Such phraseology should be kept to a minimum. However, complete uniformity could be attained only by adopting an inflexibility that would be nonsensical."

Mr. Seymour Lubetzky opened the discussion with a brief outline of the background of the draft rules. It was apparent from his former study of the historical development of the existing code, that the present rules had grown up haphazardly without "any framework of theory and principles to support the rules as a body of thought". He felt that it was now essential to "decide on the purposes the catalog is to serve and on a body of principles to be followed as a

framework for the rules as a whole and then develop the rules on objectives supported by the framework of these principles". Other cataloguing codes had been studied in the preparatory work and at all stages the draft was under the careful supervision of the Steering Committee, and the Code Revision Committee at large. The proposed code has also been considered by section heads of the Descriptive Cataloging Division at the Library of Congress, and by interested organizations abroad. It is obvious that the best brains have been utilized and Mr. Lubetzky and the Steering Committee have taken full advantage of comments and suggestions. Mr. Lubetzky emphasised that the two basic objectives of the proposed rules were (1) "to identify an author, and (2) to represent the same work in the catalog in the same way regardless of the variant titles, or variant forms of the author's name under which it may have been published".

The discussion followed the lines indicated by the Chairman. Most speakers agreed in principle that the code should be the best possible for the present and the future, that the existing code was unsystematic and loose and that in the task of code revision the body of rules should be considered as a whole, and not merely as fragments joined together. It was inevitable that great problems would arise, but if cataloguers are convinced that changes are desirable then they will do their utmost to solve the difficulties in making the change. The main problem exercising the minds of the members of the Institute was the application of the code to their own libraries. It instantly posed the question—Will the new code be used only for new material and leave the existing material as it is? This naturally raises the difficulties of filing. Would it be desirable to have two separate catalogues, or should one interfile entries under the new and the old rules in the same catalogue? Interfiling may be all right for "dead" material, but surely it is not desirable to have two forms of entry for the same institution, filed in the same catalogue. Regardless of Mr. Wright's appeal not to consider the costs of recat-

aloguing, most members agreed that recataloguing was, nevertheless, an expensive and time wasting job. An opinion was expressed that the Library of Congress would presumably apply the new code, when approved to new cataloguing but no decision at this stage had yet been made by the Library of Congress as to how the code would affect the present body of printed cards.

The second line of discussion centred round the question of the use of permissive words and indefinite phrases in the statement of the rules. It was felt that the rules should be simplified so as to reduce the need for interpretation by cataloguers. Mr. Wright agreed that clear and definite statements were recommended but he saw danger in making every rule so strict as to preclude any variation. One speaker expressed concern about the excessive use of phrases that needed further specification, such as "in general", "as a rule", "sufficiently distinct" and "most frequently used". There was, he maintained, a difference between flexibility and vagueness. The Chairman assured the meeting that the Committee would keep in mind this distinction. The definition of terms which would be provided in a glossary would make the intention clear in most cases. The matter of correlation of the two editions of the Rules was raised and it was revealed that a Concordance was being prepared by the Descriptive Cataloging Division of the Library of Congress, which could be published if so desired.

It was reported that a new code was being prepared in Germany as the *Prussian Instructions* were no longer considered adequate and it was hoped that there could be some co-ordination between the two codes. (This matter later came up for discussion following the paper on the *International Aspects of Code Revision* by Andrew D. Osborn). Mr. Wright expressed the opinion that each country should first work out the best code it can for its own use. It was desirable, however, that each country be willing to indulge in a certain amount of give and take for the sake of co-operation. Mr. Lubetzky spoke briefly on the main points raised in

the discussion and the general opinion was one of support for the philosophy of the revised code.

At the Second session Miss Herrick, from Boston university, summarized her paper on *Entry for Works of Single Authorship and Anonyma*. The draft rule specifies entry under "the vernacular name by which the author is identified in his works". It does not say whether it is the real or assumed name, full or brief name, proper name or nickname. "Ancient and other well-known authors who have come to be known and identified in general reference sources by other names are to be entered under these names. Corporate bodies whose name may variously be given are entered under the official form of the name except when another name is consistently or predominately used." Miss Herrick suggested that one of the principal points of disagreement, particularly with respect to pseudonyms, rested on the divergent purposes served by the catalogues of academic institutions and those of some public libraries. She stressed the danger of destroying the value of the catalogue as a tool for scholars in the future for the sake of easy reference at the present time.

Discussion centred around the point as to whether the scattering of entries under the various names used by an author was less expensive in cataloguing costs and more convenient to readers than the practice of entry of all works under one form of name. The Chairman announced that a provision of alternative rules, in some cases, was under consideration so that libraries might follow the course appropriate to their clientele.

The impression gained from the discussion was that no one had violent objections to the proposed rule but it seemed as though many libraries would ignore it completely and follow their own practice. The Chairman requested a show of hands on the three alternative forms of entry (1) name on title page, (2) best known name, (3) legal name. The voting was in favour of (3) legal name which is the form most favoured under the present A.L.A. rules. Equal preference was indi-

cated in voting on (a) the use of one form of name in all circumstances and (b) entry under as many names including pseudonyms, as may have appeared on the works.

In regard to entry for Anonyma it was generally agreed that the proposed abolition of the distinction between anonymous classics and other anonymous works was a good thing. The proposed rule "An edition of an anonymous work issued under a title different from that of the original edition is entered under the title of the original edition, with added entries under the name of the editor, if given, and under the title of the edition" was felt by some members to be very unsatisfactory. It could result in a cumbersome title superimposed as heading above the title page title, and this would lead to difficulties in filing. Mr. Lubetzky pointed out that "the choice of title for an anonymous work is primarily a matter of identifying the work and bringing together editions published under variant titles. The basic issue is identification, not whether a work is a classic or some other type of anonyma. In his opinion the search for the original title is a necessary part of the problem of identifying the work and does not introduce any additional complications."

Miss Field, of Yale university, summarized her paper on the problems of Serial entry at the Third session. She placed particular emphasis on the costs and the time-consuming operation of cataloguing serials and stressed the importance of achieving rules which would result in clear, easily usable entries at comparatively little cost. One of the principal departures from the rules has always been in the matter of "Changes of title". The draft Code reads "A serial whose title has changed is entered under its successive titles as issued, excepting changes in the sub-title and changes of short duration". Miss Field reviewed the types of entry—earliest title, latest title, or successive titles—from the point of view of users of the Catalogue and the amount of work involved in making the original entry and keeping it up to date. In her opinion there seemed no obvious advantage in any

one of the three systems and she suggested "that the Cataloging Code Revision Committee give serious consideration to providing alternative rules of entry for serials, noting as preferred the one that seems most practical for the largest number of libraries".

The question of entering all serials under title was raised, but the feeling of the meeting was that there would be such a bulk of cards filed under certain indistinctive titles that it would be difficult to find a particular item. The general trend of the discussion was that the requirements of libraries varied considerably in respect of serial cataloguing and that alternative rules should be made so that individual libraries could adapt them according to their needs. It seemed desirable, however, that Library of Congress entries contain the bibliographical history of serials. Individual experience and fields of work coloured the opinions expressed on preference for earliest title, later title or successive titles. The group voted overwhelmingly in favour of entry under latest title, in principle, but all would apply it with some modifications. Mr. Lubetzky dealt with three points which had been raised:—Choice of entry, the relative merits of entry under single title and successive titles, and the question of entering all serials under title. In his opinion "the principles of authorship should be followed for serials as well as for monographs. Many serials, however, are capable of being carried on at different times by different people, and because of this characteristic of fugitive authorship these should be entered under title. Certain types of serials, on the other hand, are so bound up with the work of a corporate body that there is no possibility of fugitive authorship, and they are more appropriately entered under the corporate body. Although an approach should be provided through 'distinctive' or 'best known' title, Mr. Lubetzky rejected these as not being sound principles on which to base the main entry". On the merits of single or successive titles he thought that regardless of the rule each library would make its own choice but would urge that the decision be made only after careful bal-

anced consideration. Title entry for all serials could not, in his opinion, be seriously considered since titles are often a matter of title page design and are subject to individual interpretation of what the title is.

"Entry of corporate body under successive names" was considered at the Fourth session. In the summary of her working paper Mrs. MacDonald, from the National library of medicine, stressed the magnitude of the subject of Corporate entry so that it seemed necessary to deal with it in parts. For that reason, only the question of "which form or forms of corporate name should be used for catalog entry when the name has been changed one or more times". The same choice had to be made as with serials — earliest name, latest name or successive names, with perhaps a symbolic or arbitrary form, e.g., made up words like Unesco. The identical arguments for each form could be advanced as had been with serials but perhaps the most debatable question asked was "how entry under successive names could be reconciled with the objective of bringing together in the catalog all the works of an author." Mr. Lubetzky in explaining why he treated changes of name differently for individuals and corporate bodies, contended that an individual did not change his identity with a change of name but corporate bodies, not having the same kind of identity, were constantly undergoing change and this was reflected in successive names. On a show of hands the group showed about a 3 to 1 preference for the Entry of corporate bodies under their successive titles.

At the Fifth Session Miss Colvin of Simons College summarized her paper on *Entry of All Institutions under Name Rather than Place*. Generally, the proposed rule provides for Entry of corporate bodies, other than government agencies and religious bodies, under the name of the body. This is a complete breakaway from the present code aimed at simplicity and directness, and will, it is hoped, do away with a large number of complicating issues. Miss Colvin said that she found the philosophy of entry under name accept-

able. To her there appeared to be many advantages, viz:— under the proposed rule the Entry would be based primarily upon bibliographic data found on the publications; the disappearance of artificial distinctions between Societies and Institutions — in fact the terms, societies and institutions, would be omitted altogether; directness in entry would remove the practice of inverted names; the addition of place to the name of a corporate body for identification when the first entry is established; in a dictionary catalogue heavy concentrations of entries formerly found under place would be dispersed throughout the entire catalogue. She stressed, however, that there were controversial issues too, e.g., "The name of a local body is qualified by the name of the place if it is indistinctive or if it is found in more than one place". The question arises what constitutes an 'indistinctive' name? and by what criteria would a corporate body be identified as local, national or state, so that the addition of place could be added for identification? As it seemed almost impossible to expect uniformity of entry perhaps the Drafting Committee might consider two alternatives:

"(1) To provide specific and detailed rules to cover every type of institution or

(2) To provide a central agency to make and issue decisions as to form of entry for corporate bodies. Union catalogs, centralized and co-operative cataloging, and cataloging in source may demand this solution."

During the discussion it was suggested that the users of the catalogue would require to know the exact name of the corporate body, and this they rarely did. Also there was a feeling that the reference librarian or the user of the catalogue working from memory would find it much easier to look under the place with which the corporate body was inevitably associated than under the hazily remembered name of the corporate body. The Chairman maintained that this trouble could be overcome through references. The group unanimously agreed that in the new rules societies and institutions should be treated in the same way, but the majority voted

for some entries under place rather than for all entries under name.

Problems of Subdivisions in the Entries for Corporate Bodies was the topic presented by Miss Haskins, of Harvard university. The proposed rules for entering subdivisions of corporate bodies were based on the criteria of both name and function. Miss Haskins said she favoured simplification and recommended—

“(1) Modification of the rules to give greater emphasis to the main body, for the reason that readers may be better served by an alphabetical arrangement under main body than by arrangement under subdivisions of which they have no clear entries required by organizational changes in corporate bodies; (2) use of independent entry whenever feasible;

(3) adoption of distinctive name as the criterion for independent entry or direct subdivision without introducing the element of function; and (4) extension of the practice of omitting final subdivisions from the heading.” During discussion of these recommendations, support was given by several speakers to the consideration of achieving shorter headings. In practice publications were frequently ‘hidden’ in the catalogue in a maze of divisions and subdivisions. Independent entry was also favoured, but there was diversity of opinion as to whether the use of distinctive name without regard to function should be the criterion of independent entry. Mr. Lubetzky in speaking on some of the points raised said that the drafting of this section of the rules had been very difficult, and he was glad to receive suggestions for its improvement. He amplified his criteria as follows:—

“(1) If an organization has its own name and its own function and is only administratively related to the parent body, it is entered under its own name as an independent body; (2) if an organization is an integral part and participates in carrying out the function of the parent body, it is entered as a subdivision of the larger organization.” An integral part was defined as one that cannot be dissociated from the body to which it belongs.

In dealing with the omissions of final subdivisions, the Chairman agreed that the rules required revision and classification and the meeting agreed that both name and function should be considered in entering subdivisions of corporate bodies.

During the Seventh Session the paper on *Form Sub-Headings under Government Bodies*, by Arthur Berthold was, in his absence, summarized by Mr. Spalding. The author pointed out that the A.L.A. rules are for Author and Title entries and it is difficult to justify the form headings suggested as Author or Title entries—they are more in the nature of subject headings. He advocated conventional titles. The term “Laws, statutes, etc., constitutes a group heading and should be used only as a subject heading”. Citation title or name of a particular law would be the conventional title for laws or statutes. During the discussion period a paper was read by Mr. Ellinger who strongly criticized the proposed rules. Mr. Lubetzky in commenting on the points raised suggested that “there was insufficient documentation present for an ‘intelligent’ decision to be reached at the Institute”, and that further consideration would be given to this subject, by the Code Revision Committee.

A paper entitled *Entries for Congresses, Conferences, etc.*, by Joseph Rogers was also discussed at this session. The author called attention to the difficulty of applying a rule for the entry of publications resulting from a meeting that is not named. He thought that Conference entries should somehow come within the ruling for corporate bodies. The question of identifying elements, such as place, date and number, to be included in conference heading was raised. The problem of changes of name, irregularities in numbering should also be considered. Mr. Wright, in opening the discussion, said that the principal difficulty was to determine when a conference is named or when it is merely described. Several speakers expressed the opinion that place and date were useful in the heading.

The paper on *International Aspects of Code Revision*, by Andrew Osborn was

submitted at the eighth and final session. In Dr. Osborn's absence the summary was read by Mrs. Williston. "For fifty years international library conferences have aimed at world-wide agreement on cataloging rules. Agreement could have been reached before now no doubt if personal-name entries only had been involved; but in the area of what the Germans call *anonyma* (roughly what we call corporate and title entries) difficulties persist. For one thing our handling of corporate entries has been far from ideal. The Anglo-American rules have been lacking in directness and simplicity. Fortunately the Lubetzky drafts have to a high degree the qualities of straightforwardness and simplicity in headings, so they can well serve, with special modifications, as the basis for international discussion". Dr. Osborn drew attention to the fact that in 1955 a subcommittee of IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations) had made a positive step towards international agreement by laying down principles designed to reconcile the rival traditions. As the situation now seems encouraging the subcommittee is planning a special conference to be held in Europe, perhaps in 1961. A grant has been made to IFLA by the Council on Library Resources to assist in this project. It seems essential at this time, when various countries are undertaking catalogue code revision, that the United States should continue to take the lead in an endeavour to bring about an international code. Dr. Osborn urged that no final action be taken on a new Anglo-American code until the international conference on cataloguing rules had taken place. He also urged the IFLA subcommittee to accelerate the date for the conference, if possible. Finally "the ALA Catalog Code Revision Committee should give special

attention to the questions of authorship and entry words, of conventions and issuing bodies. We should officially recognize the extensions and restrictions of the author concept in the same way as the *Prussian Instructions* has done. We shall find that once we begin to think of headings as entry words, we can control and adapt them to suit our practical library purposes, regardless of whether they relate to personal or corporate names, form headings or anything else". Mr. Wright stated that although the ALA wanted to present to an international meeting a set of rules, well thought and discussed, ready for publication but not published, it would mean a delay in the original target date for the new code. Opinions were expressed indicating that members felt that delaying publication of the new rules was important in order to achieve as much international agreement as possible.

Mr. Chaplin of the Library Association (Great Britain), as a representative of the IFLA Working Group, announced that the Working Group's preliminary report was remarkably similar to the general tenor of Mr. Lubetzky's draft. It was hoped that at the forthcoming planning meeting some basic principles would be drawn up for discussion and possible acceptance.

The *Summary of proceedings* and the *Partial and tentative draft* were kindly made available by Dr. Andrew D. Osborn, Librarian of the Fisher Library, University of Sydney, who prepared a paper for the Institute. His firm opinion is that Librarians in Australia should be informed of what is going on overseas in respect of Cataloguing code revision, so that they may formulate a body of thought which could be voiced through the Library Association of Australia.

The Functions of The Library Board of New South Wales

By W. L. BROWN, A.L.A.

Librarians in Britain have for many years expressed the opinion, that without governmental control libraries will remain the junior partner in local government receiving the last and crumbiest slice of the municipal cake. They feel that some ministry (probably the Ministry for Education) should be charged with the responsibility of laying down minimum standards, of regular inspections and, if necessary, of subsidizing poorer areas. The Roberts Committee was established by the British Government to investigate these matters and "to consider the structure of the public library service in England and Wales" generally. This committee has now reported to the government, but the full report is not yet available in Australia. It will be interesting to compare what the Roberts Committee regards as minimum standards with the standards in New South Wales.

In New South Wales we have legislation that might well be the British librarian's dream for the creation of a library utopia. The Library Act, 1939 (as amended) sets up the Library Board of New South Wales and more or less clearly lays down its duties and responsibilities.

It is my aim to discuss whether, despite the statutory equality of New South Wales libraries with other branches of local government, the original aims of the Act are being realized, whether the legal obligations are being met and in what manner the permissive duties are being undertaken, if at all. It must be clearly understood that any criticisms (implied or direct) are criticisms of the Board as a corporate body and not of any individual member or officer.

There is an obligation on the Board

to inspect all local government libraries in the State at least once a year. That this is not being done is no news to the Board, and they have in fact drawn attention to the matter in their annual reports. Shortage of staff and lack of funds are the reasons. This lack of regular inspection is a serious omission for several reasons. State funds are being spent in libraries in the form of subsidy, and it is incumbent on the Board to know how these moneys are being spent — well or ill — in order to report with authority to Parliament through the Minister for Education. Councils providing library services under the Act are in most cases not competent to judge the efficiency of their own services, and the Board should report to them at least once a year on how their library services are being administered and in what ways improvements can be made. Regular inspection and report by the Board would assist chief librarians who are attempting to give the best service by pointing out to councils those deficiencies of staff, buildings, expenditure, etc., that are hampering the libraries' development and would give added weight to the librarians' own reports on these matters. The Board's report should also comment on the chief librarians' administration. This would be a salutary thing for both the good and the indifferent librarian. Further, and particularly in country libraries, librarians and library staffs would be only too pleased to discuss their local problems, and librarianship in general, with the well qualified officers of the Board. Such visits by others in the profession are far too rare for most country librarians. And finally on this matter of inspections, it would be interesting to know when, if ever, the major metropolitan libraries were last inspected. The impression is created,

probably erroneously, that the Board is afraid of offending the major metropolitan councils by carrying out its statutory obligation to inspect.

The Library Board has stated in its report "in the majority of cases, the service given by public libraries under the Act is of a standard that is comparable with overseas standards..." Is this really the case? It seems to me to be a very self-satisfied statement. I know of many libraries (including my own) that I would not wish to compare with the average British library. That they are not of comparable standard is not necessarily a reflection on their administration or on the Board's supervision, after all most British libraries have been operating for a century. Our development in a decade has been good if not phenomenal, and no excuses need be made, but for the Board to say that we are comparable is to encourage a complacent attitude both in the government and in the councils running the services. Much needs to be done, and the Board should be the body to say so without hedging. Whose feelings are they trying to spare?

The staff establishment shown in every issue of the Board's annual report includes provision for six regional officers. One or two such officers were in the field for some time several years ago, but since that time sporadic visits to country areas have been the rule. Whilst it is realized that the appointment of six officers is unlikely to be achieved in the near future, it would seem essential to have three, one each for the North, West and South based on say Tamworth, Dubbo and Wagga. Of course, even if permission were given for appointments to be made to bring up the Board's establishment there would be little possibility of being able to recruit people well enough qualified and well enough experienced in the municipal field, since suitable salaries could not be offered. A person appointed to such a position could not expect to receive more than £1400 a year. The Board has been fortunate in the past in obtaining the services of well qualified people who were and are sufficiently interested in the job, and who for

various personal reasons are prepared to accept the low financial reward. But this neither justifies nor excuses the position, nor is it any guarantee that such people will be forthcoming in the future. A regional officer must inspect libraries where the librarian receives a higher salary although in some cases is less qualified and experienced. What inspector of schools receives less than the headmaster of any school he inspects? This problem of recruitment and salaries raises the question of the desirability of the Library Board being tied to the Public Library of New South Wales, but since this raises the whole subject of appointment and seniority in the Public Service I do not intend to pursue the matter further in this article.

That many small library services are inadequate and uneconomic is obvious to anyone who has seen a sample of country libraries in New South Wales, or who has examined the statistics in the annual reports of the Board. Municipalities or Shires of 10,000 or less population attempting independent library services are either not doing the job or are spending an inordinately large amount per capita—and there are not many in the latter category. There are several library services serving between ten and twenty thousand population doing a reasonably good job, but here again, if their book-stocks are of a high standard, they are uneconomic because the books are not being read by a large enough number of people. In a municipal library books should wear out with use and not fall apart with age. Particularly in areas where the Joint Coal Board's generosity has been felt, are there small libraries able to show good book stocks in adequate premises. The Coal Board has now almost ceased distributing its largesse and as a result book expenditure in those areas is going down. (This is a good example of the undesirability of depending on charity for the provision of library service.) The coal towns themselves are feeling the pinch and book expenditure is likely to go down still further. With a lack of new material patronage will drop off and the makings of the vicious circle that killed the Schools of Arts will be complete. The good book

stocks which should and could have been made available to a large population over a wide area will gather dust and rot on the shelves.

The Board has in the past been weak in its policy of allowing and even encouraging the development of small independent library services. Whilst it is realized that the Board has no power to compel a council to become a member of a regional library service, or to participate in a joint service, it could and should dissuade such councils from attempting independent operation. Some amendment to the Act is necessary that will enable the Board to compel small councils to join with other areas and also compel the larger authorities to accept their small counterparts in the provision of better library service for both.

It would be invidious to mention library services by name, but persons familiar with the N.S.W. library scene will readily be able to bring to mind examples of small independent library services operating virtually side by side, both too weak to stand on their own feet, but too parochial to accept each other's help. Very often the income for these library services is not even large enough to pay a decent salary to the librarian. What does the council spending less than £1,000 per annum on its service use for book purchase after it has paid the librarian's salary? It is not easy to lay down a population minimum below which library service is uneconomic, since areas vary and population densities vary, but a good basis for argument is that twenty-five thousand population is the absolute minimum, and that generally a larger unit is desirable. The Roberts Report states that no local authority can be regarded as providing an efficient library service unless it spends at least £5,000 a year on the purchase of books, or two shillings per head of population, whichever is the greater. In Australian currency, and having regard to the higher relative price of books it is suggested that three shillings would be a satisfactory minimum to apply. In other words taking twenty-five thousand as the minimum population unit, £3,750 would be the minimum book expenditure which

would justify a library's claim to be large enough to operate independently. Certainly £3,750 will not purchase more than a bare representative selection of a year's publications.

The Board expresses the opinion in its report that an annual expenditure of eight shillings per head of population is the minimum that will provide adequate modern library services. And who will cavil at that? Yet the Act still allows councils to spend as little as two shillings per head. The recent amendment to the Act which increased the subsidy to a maximum of three shillings per head should have made councils' minimum contribution three shillings. This must certainly be done as soon as possible.

Several libraries in the state are still making charges for fiction (shades of the schools of arts!!). This is permitted by the Act, but it is the negation of good library practice. Surely the Board could have persuaded these councils at the beginning that this was an undesirable practice, and surely now they can bring pressure to bear to eliminate this anachronism. An amendment to the Act may be necessary to rid us of the fiction charge in the few die-hard libraries.

It is time that action was taken to prescribe circumstances in which councils shall be required to employ library assistants. Too often the Board has either condoned, or winked the blind eye at councils loading their library staffs with persons of Intermediate Certificate standard who have no hope of ever becoming library assistants. In all branches of local government there is a general raising of standards, and branches which in the past accepted Intermediate Certificate as a reasonable entry level are now requiring or are contemplating requiring the Leaving Certificate for entry. Let the library branch not lower its sights. An argument is put forward that in small libraries it is hard to lay down a percentage basis for the employment of library assistants, but this seems to me to be easily solved. Where there are one, two or three staff let them all be Matriculants and let at least one be a library assistant. Where

the staff is four or over, not more than twenty-five per cent should be of Intermediate standard and one third of the remainder should be at least library assistants within the meaning of the Act. This would mean that in a staff of twenty, five would be at least library assistants, five could be of Intermediate standard, and the rest would be Matriculants. This is a low minimum, and probably not impossible of enforcement.

The Regulation under the Act which compels councils to employ librarians holding the Certificate of Competency issued by the Board, is a good step forward. But in cases where councils have not been able to obtain the services of qualified librarians Certificates of Exemption have been issued. The Regulation states that these exemptions are for one year only and must be renewed. Are persons appointed in charge of libraries under these

exemptions aware that their positions are temporary? An amendment of the Regulation would clarify this matter and should also compel such councils to re-advertise at least annually.

In summing up it is apparent that a change of thinking is needed in the Board. Much good work has been done in "selling" library service to councils, which in some cases must have been like selling heaters to Hottentots. The foundations have been laid and reasonably well laid, but the structure arising on these foundations is not as solid as the Board's Reports would have us believe. A general raising of standards is now needed, and a general tightening-up is essential in inspections, and in the attitude to councils not making a proper effort.

New South Wales municipal librarianship is in its second phase and in many ways it is more important than the first.

International Conference on Information Processing

About 1,500 experts representing Unesco's Member States, the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies attended a Conference in Unesco House from June 15-20, 1959.

The agenda for the conference included:

- (1) methods of digital computing;
- (2) logical design of digital computers;
- (3) common symbolic language for digital computers;
- (4) automatic translation of languages;
- (5) collection, storage, and retrieval of information;
- (6) pattern recognition and machine learning. The first international exhibition of information processing equipment, Auto-Math 59, was held in Paris at the same time as the conference.

Unesco: Bibliographical News,
Vol. 8, 2, March, 1959.

INTER-LIBRARY LOAN FORMS

The Association has had printed inter-library loan request forms which were recommended by the Special Libraries Section. They are now available for sale made up in pads each of which contains 50 request forms in quadruplicate. The price is 10/- per pad. Orders may be sent to the Registrar, Library Association of Australia, C/- Public Library of New South Wales, Macquarie Street, Sydney and immediate delivery is promised.

Book Reviews and Notes

The Editor is anxious to increase the number of books reviewed and is making arrangements to receive review copies from publishers. She will be glad to hear from members who are willing to review books in various fields of librarianship.

L.-N. Macclès: *Les sources du travail bibliographique* Genève, Droz, 1950-1958. 3v. in 4.

In 1954 Mademoiselle Malclès wrote in an introduction to a shorter work on the subject of bibliography: "Among the different activities of the librarian, none is perhaps more lively and original than that which produces a bibliography. It keeps him constantly alert, stimulates his powers of thought and of intuition and frees him from his daily routines".⁽¹⁾ Since the 1,890 odd pages under review deal with bibliography and nothing but bibliography—what a happy time Mlle. Malclès must have had! The result: there is no other work available of the same scope, of the same thoroughness and of equal authority. "Les sources" is not a mere list of titles; it is a long series of considered opinions concerning the most useful sources of bibliographic information. It is also imbued with and transpired by fervid belief in the honour and dignity of the profession of librarianship.

Dedicated, in volume 1, to "Mes élèves diplômés des bibliothèques de 1933 à 1950" there is about the whole work the air of the "grand master", of the "old hand".

The first volume presents a general survey of the subject of bibliography and provides the definitions so essential to this important and universal auxiliary of all intellectual work. Says Mlle. Malclès "Bibliography is the knowledge of all published or multigraphed texts". Like Goethe's Faust I have the urge to cry:

Here am I balked: who, now, can help afford?

⁽¹⁾ Cours de bibliographie. Genève, Droz, 1954. p.vii.

The Word?—impossible so high to rate it...

Yet Mlle. Malclès proceeds unhesitatingly and one soon finds that she has not forgotten the spirit behind the letter. The key to the definition is the concept of synthesis. Bibliography—as we learn from her historical and well reasoned introduction—consists of certain technical processes the basis of which are: search, identification, description and classification. These are governed by a synthesis—an act as well as a state—emanating from or created by the person who is engaged in bibliographical work. This point is made clear in volume two, where she says:

"These bibliographies [of bibliographies], because they aim at being practical, [i.e. handbooks] are not assembled in a scientific manner, as if the two approaches, the scientific and the practical, far from being able to exist together were compulsorily separated concepts. Thus the general American guides of J. Minto and of I. Mudge, with their alphabetical arrangement within classified sections, discourage the effort of synthesis which is necessary for those who wish to follow up the development of a question and understand its present state" (p.232).

Synthesis then is the art which makes a bibliography into a creative and—*ipso facto*—useful tool, but this synthesis has to be provided, can only be provided by the compiler. It is only fair to note at this point that Mlle. Malclès' own contribution is indeed a model of synthesis while those sections of her *Sources* which have been contributed by specialists, are

much more disjointed. But of this anon.

After the "mise-en-pointe", after the definition, come the first general surveys of bibliographic sources. Those of us who have been nurtured on the Anglo-American diet of reference tools are often exceedingly ignorant even of the major works of continental Europe. *Les Sources* offers more balanced and richer fare, not only by citing as many American titles as are found in most other works of this kind but by giving more detail and explanations of the relative usefulness of non-American reference works. While Miss Winchell's work is of unquestionable usefulness and her bibliographic work beyond reproach, it is good to know that *Les Sources* gives us considerably more information, for instance, on Finland's national bibliographies than we had thought possible or than had been thought necessary by Miss Winchell.

The information provided under the major groups of *Les pays slaves et balaniques* (v.1:279-336) has been compiled with the help of leading librarians of the countries concerned and is therefore of special value.

Mlle. Malclès has a strong aversion to the simple alphabetical arrangement of pieces of information. The passage cited above makes that point abundantly clear and we do therefore not expect to find information on our own country at the beginning of the extensive section on national bibliographies. Australian national sentiment may, however, be affected by the discovery of *Australie* as an appendage to *Grande-Bretagne*, in company with Canada (which precedes us) and without any other member of the British Commonwealth of Nations in this particular section — presumably because they have not been able to produce a national bibliography. In fact, a search through the index of volume one reveals no entry under New Zealand or under Nouvelle Zélande though the Harris Guide ^(*) lists several publications which compare in scope with those referred to under the Australian section. The same can, of course, be said about the Union of South Africa. Information on the bibliographic sources for

these countries can be found in the second volume under the general heading of *Bibliographies des territoires d'outre-mer*. Again one wonders why Canada has been treated as a separate unit in the section dealing with national bibliographies while Australian and New Zealand national biography appears as an afterthought to the biography of Great Britain. But these are not important blemishes in a work of such size and large scale.

The second and third volumes, the former of which is bound in two parts but paged continuously, deal with specialized bibliography. Volume two contains the humanistic studies and volume three the pure and applied sciences. No single person, can today have a thorough knowledge of all branches of learning nor of the bibliographic source material that lies at their base and Mlle. Malclès has handsomely acknowledged the help she has received from specialists in a number of libraries inside and outside of France. However it is quite obvious and in no way surprising that Mlle. Malclès has exercised more than a "compiling hand" in the volumes on humanistic studies while the volume on the sciences shows a different attitude towards problems of bibliographic identification. In the introduction to volume three we find a restatement of Mlle. Malclès' philosophy of synthesis.

"In the second volume," she writes on p.v, "we had limited ourselves to the great works of synthesis which can direct us towards a multitude of problems without attempting to tie us down to any line. Thus the cooperative efforts which portray the general history of each nation would suffice, we hoped, to direct attention towards the specialized studies, more limited in space and time or more narrowly specialized in their subject, and we proposed to proceed in the same manner in each of the pure sciences.

"But the 'scientist' has persuaded us not to stay at that level, telling us of the very relation or illusory

(*) Harris, J. *comp.* Guide to New Zealand reference material . . . 2nd ed. 1950.

usefulness of information of such precarious character since numerous sections of the pure sciences, and not the least among them, are not covered by a comprehensive treatise which is sufficiently developed, or documented or up-to-date."

The result is that the sociology and humanistic studies show in the presentation of their bibliographic apparatus more emphasis on the historical continuity of the subject than is the case in the sciences. Not that the great basic works are not cited in each scientific subject. The section on optics contains a dozen titles on the history of optics and among the books on the theory of light are the fundamental works by Huygens, Newton, Poincaré and Planck; there is also Gehrcke's famous *Handbuch der physikalischen Optik*, as well as the relevant volume from the new edition of the *Handbuch der Physik*. But in addition we find eight pages of references to particular aspects of optics and of light. In other words, many specialist books are cited which in the opinion of the compiler are essential for an overall treatment of his comparatively narrow part of physics. If for comparison we look at the section on logic we find that the subject's bibliographical apparatus is compressed in about two pages; a good deal of information on logic is however contained in the general philosophical treatises and bibliographies cited in a preceding section. This is a fairly typical example of the difference in treatment. It is instructive to reflect that those librarians who happen to possess only training in the pure sciences will find that *detailed* bibliographic information in fields with which they are already fairly familiar while the information available to them in fields which are foreign to them and notably in the humanistic studies is rather of a summary character and is more particularly a list of sources.

It would be churlish to list shortcomings. No work of this nature can be all things to all men. Every bibliographer must know that the day he ceases compiling a bibliography it begins to become out of date. It is undoubtedly regrettable that some small lapses went to the printer (e.g.

Pitt cited on page 17 of vol. three could well have been replaced by the latest edition) but the value of the whole work is not seriously affected by these minor blemishes. One major omission which strikes the reader of the third volume, is the absence of a section on agricultural sciences. A footnote on p.vii explains that the unforeseen bulk of the book forced the suppression of this section of the work. It is to be hoped that there will be some means of publishing it as a separate in the near future.

Mlle. Malclès has shown great courage, not only in undertaking so monumental a work as this, but also to state her aim in the preface to the second volume and to repeat it in the preface to the third which appeared six years later. This civil courage arouses my fullest admiration but naturally prompts me to ask: is it justified — has she fulfilled her promise? "... notre bibliographie ne voulant être qu'une source et non une somme ..." (p.v of v.2) has been her declared purpose. As I have already indicated, this aim has been achieved in the second volume dealing with the social and humanistic studies. In the third volume she writes: "We have tried to present a guide for the use of libraries." The great test would be to acquire the books mentioned and to see whether the collection thus assembled would represent a true and exhaustive key to man's accumulated knowledge.

In fact we knew that this test would be passed. Mlle. Malclès did not write *Les Sources* on a desert island but in a city which for almost ten centuries has been a hub of European intellectual activity; and where there is an accumulation of reference material of superb quality and quantity. Without such a background the work could obviously not have been done and only because of her intimate acquaintance with these works could this "guide" be written.

A word must be said about the general arrangement of the sections which make up the major divisions. There is about them the air of the teacher of long experience. This explains no doubt the presence of Australian references among

the references to Great Britain since the French or European bibliographer would probably not distinguish so clearly between these when using them, and if we think of the *Catalogue of the British Empire Society* we would have a similar problem. For these and similar reasons we find a section on Slavonic bibliography where are gathered national bibliographies, library catalogues, etc., which previously had been treated *sui generis*. One can argue endlessly about the merits of such arbitrary division and the purist will be justified in demanding that national bibliographies should either be treated as such or be split up according to country. Since Mlle. Malclès has broken a good deal of entirely new ground her deviation from the pure approach will be forgiven.

It is doubtful whether another work of this size will appear again in the near future. Mlle. Malclès has followed the great tradition of university teachers in presenting us with the intellectual means to work. It is up to us to make use of these means.

D. H. Borchardt.

Classified catalogue code, with additional rules for Dictionary Catalogue Code. By S. R. Ranganathan.

Madras, Madras Library-Association, 1958. 42/-.

The fourth edition of this work which was first published in 1934 has been largely rewritten and considerably enlarged.

The book amply demonstrates the value and the limitations of Dr. Ranganathan's contributions to librarianship. We find his mania for inventing a special vocabulary very much in evidence — "knowledge-unit", "macro-thought", "tell-tale title". We read that a "Non-conventional document of kind 3" is a document made of cinema reels, and a document is an "embodied thought", i.e., a "record of work on paper or other material, fit for physical handling, transport across space, and preservation through time". In the midst of this we read one of the best definitions of the periodical problem — "These are all prone to . . . the usual infanticides, marriages, divorces, paralytic strokes, deaths, resurrections and other ills . . .".

The range of the book is wide—the author considers not only the problems of the classified catalogue but also such timely problems as the compilation of union catalogues, the development of national bibliography and the hope of "pre-natal cataloguing". His list of names with oft-recurring "irremovable attachments" and with "removable attachments" for Burmese, Ceylonese, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Punjabi, Telugi and Tamil cultural groups is an aid to the foreign cataloguer. While we may not always, or even often, agree with his solutions to problems of cataloguing and bibliography the radical differences of those solutions should widen our own view of the problems.

There is much in this book that is irritating — much pretentious jargon (used, the author states, to eliminate "noise" and establish a "special, agreed, dry-as-dust terminology without even the slightest touch of fuzziness"), there are many complicated statements of the obvious and many unnecessary systems (such as the complicated symbols for holding libraries in the section on union catalogues).

And yet, for those who are not roused to fury or fanaticism by the works of Ranganathan, there is a value in reading the words of one who has himself studied the problems and the literature of his subject — one who has not spared himself or lost his enthusiasm for librarianship. The book, too, can give to the reader a glimpse of some of the problems that face Indian librarianship — problems beside which the darkest cloud on the Australian horizon pales into the sun. How many of us would tackle those problems with half the zeal and imagination and sticking power of S. R. Ranganathan?

Boys, Robert D.: *First Years at Port Phillip, 1834-1842; Preceded by a Summary of Historical Events from 1768.* 2nd. ed., Melbourne, Robertson and Mullens, 1959. xi, 159p. 42/-.

Colin McCallum, Chief Librarian of the Public Library of Victoria, in his introduction to the second edition, speaks of his predecessor's book as "an informative and authoritative work of reference". The

first edition was published in 1935, but has been out of print for some time. The reprint contains, in addition to the new introduction, only one alteration and that a minor one. Librarians will welcome the reappearance of this essential historical tool.

*Introducing the Baillieu Library,
University of Melbourne*

This guide to the library has the essentials of a good handbook for students — it looks attractive and easy to read; it is well designed and logically set out; and both the text and the plans are easily understood.

A pleasing feature of the book is the recurring invitation to ask the staff for help when catalogue, reference book or

building prove difficult — “do not hesitate to ask the Library staff who will gladly help you to make the best use of the Library and its resources”.

Compton, Charles H., *William James, Philosopher and Man; Quotations and Reference in 652 Books*. New York, Scarecrow Press, 1957, 229p. \$4.50.

The former librarian of the St. Louis Public Library has quoted the references to William James which he has found in 264 different books. These quotations are complemented by a list of 652 titles (including those from which he has quoted) in which the page references to James are cited. The book is useful as a bibliography and as a summary of opinions about James.

**Fifth International Congress of Music
Libraries**

This congress was held at Kings College, Cambridge, England, from 29th June — 4th July, 1959.

The papers given covered

- (1) Technical problems of music in public libraries and documentation centres;
- (2) Historical aspects of the growth and organization of music research libraries;

(3) The definition of certain terms in musical bibliography;

- (4) Problems of collections of gramophone records: conservation, a comprehensive code for cataloguing, exchange of information and of non-commercial recordings.

Unesco: Bibliographical News,
Vol. 8, 2; March, 1959.

Correspondence

Dear Madam,

At the present time in Australia, in America (judging by the remarks of Dr. Metcalf) and possibly all over the world there is a shortage of trained librarians.

In Australia, providing all examinations are passed, on a full time basis it takes five years to become a librarian, i.e., allowing three years to take a degree and two to pass the Preliminary and Registration Examinations set by The Library Association of Australia. On a part time basis, which is the lot of many librarians, it is likely to be at least ten years before he or she attains full professional status.

The holding of a degree means a large rise in salary and is the qualification usually asked for by learned bodies, so a degree and a pass in the Preliminary Examination is the first and probably the last aim of many librarians, most of whom are girls who will marry or who, after many years of working for examinations elect to take no more.

The effect of this is that libraries are primarily staffed by undergraduates with library experience. This, it would seem to me, is a case of putting the cart before the horse, when, to continue the metaphor, the cart and horse should go together.

This I submit could be done, with the co-operation of Universities and the Association, by instituting a Degree in Librarianship. Librarians could then achieve professional status within a reasonable period plus the salary commensurate with the holding of a degree, while libraries would obtain more staff with basic training in Librarianship. It would not preclude those who intend to make librarianship a life work from going on to complete their Degree in Arts, Science, etc., and their Registration.

As a talking point I should like to suggest the following curriculum:

First Year. Full time at a University. English obligatory and course should include subjects in both Arts and Science.

Second year. Two university subjects, emphasis to lean towards the student's interest in Arts or Science.

Preliminary Examination.

Part time library work. Students to be allowed time to attend lectures plus certain study periods. This time to be measured against university time devoted to practical work on subject taken and Vacation employment.

Third Year. 1 university subject.

3 Registration subjects. R3 to be mandatory. Part time library work.

If examinations set by the Library Association were held towards the end of the Long Vacation, both work and study done by students would be spaced to ensure an even working year.

The financial aspect of this scheme should win the support of parents as it would mean that students, after one year, would be in receipt of some salary.

Olive Pell.

Dear Madam,

I have read with great interest the correspondence arising from Mr. Sharr's article "What's the use of Cataloguing and Classification", and, as one who has just successfully failed R1, 2 and 3 for the first time, I feel to some extent qualified to add a few comments.

Prior to 1950 I had three years' general library experience at the former Newtown Municipal Library, and, after some time abroad, I joined the staff of the City of Sydney Public Library in 1956. Since that I have been engaged in circulation work, and, for the past eighteen months, exclusively on various research projects.

Although sporadic, I have still managed to accumulate six years of practical experience. In 1957 I sat for and passed R4 and R10, which was most gratifying, as, being over thirty, I wished to become qualified as quickly as possible. Then came the debacle of R1, 2 and 3 last year! While R1 and R2 are perhaps within the realms of possibility at some future date, I feel that the likelihood of ever passing R3 is remote in the extreme, as practical experience in this branch of library is experience in this branch of library work is non-existent.

R. K. Olding states "any competent cataloguer could catalogue and classify the six problems . . . in one and a half hours. Surely . . . all candidates should put up a reasonable performance in three hours." Presumably, to be a competent cataloguer, at least two years' full-time experience would be needed. Unfortunately, I could not even claim to be an "incompetent" cataloguer, and there must be many students in a similar position, particularly in the larger libraries where specialization is more rigid. In smaller libraries it is usually possible to arrange for staff to have at least some pre-examination experience, but where all processes are centralized, and the staff of each department more or less permanent, this is not so easy. Thus any librarian who wishes to improve her status, but whose work does not at any time include these practical processes, has an added burden when it comes to examinations.

It is not only a matter of trying to learn by rote and understand a number of highly complex rules, but also the problem of applying them, with their many minute differentiations, during the urgency of examinations. The ease of use of such tools as Dewey and A.L.A., which becomes automatic when one is familiar with them, is absent, and many valuable minutes are lost checking references to suggested forms of usage, alternative divisions, and in fumbling around generally. No matter how well the theoretical knowledge has been learned, without a period of practical application of such knowledge, any serious attempt at R3 borders on the fantastic. The only solution I can find

personally is to ask for a transfer to the Cataloguing Department, which I would not like, and which may not appeal to the Chief Cataloguer either. The only bright spot in the situation is that the Library Association appears to have become the recipient of an unsolicited annuity of 30/- in perpetuity!

The second point I would like to raise concerns the stipulation that a minimum of two papers must be attempted unless only one remains to complete the requisite six. While this is presumably to prevent candidates from dawdling interminably over their papers, I do not feel that abolition of this clause would automatically have such a result. Many papers, such as R1-R2, and R4-R10, have a certain similarity of interest or subject matter that tends to link them together. Moreover, most people like to get examinations over and done with as quickly as possible. On the other hand, many students, especially those in country areas, who must rely entirely on private study, are at a disadvantage. Not only are there no lectures or other aids, but even with the revised reading list many of the books suggested have been out of print for over twenty years and are difficult or impossible to obtain. Under such circumstances, it is logical to concentrate specifically on one paper only, in order to increase the chance of passing. The second paper is either skipped entirely, or attempted in a half-hearted fashion, on the principle that one hates to see good money completely wasted. R8 for instance, covers such a wide field that it constitutes a good year of solid study by itself, and could easily be divided into three or even four distinct papers.

Thirdly, the standard of passes for a professional examination seems surprisingly low when compared with professional results in other fields. It is not uncommon for candidates to sit three or four times for a paper, and even more, before being successful. Librarians themselves have expressed surprise at the repeated failure of an apparently capable member of their staff, and, regardless of the amount of study done, there seems to be a fairly general, if rather extraordinary, attitude

around that success or failure is a matter of sheer luck.

I know that year after year the examiners complain sadly about the lack of preparation revealed by candidates' papers. But is the fault entirely on the side of the candidates? After studying the Syllabus, I feel that it is often a combination of several factors: individual papers cover too wide an approach to the subject (vide R1); at times the Syllabus tends to be somewhat remote from everyday library practice; and a certain "woolliness" of phraseology tends to leave the candidate in doubt as to the exact form of answer required by the examiner. An extreme example of the latter (Q2—1954) reads "Is the major hoped for value of library catalogues and bibliographies a generic relation of literature or is it easy, certain and direct retrieval of specific references or entries from large accumulations." This was apparently regarded rather warily even by the examiners themselves, who merely suggested that the candidate "Attempt an answer to the question . . ." The English Syllabus, by comparison, seems far more straightforward and concise in its requirements—a case of much about a little, instead of much about much.

A minor point is that once the papers are marked, the candidate who fails is completely at a loss, especially when a subject has been well-prepared and the failure unexpected. (There are obviously candidates who do not bother to study sufficiently, although at 30/- a pop their number should rapidly decrease.) However, apart from lack of preparation, where the remedy is obvious, failure may have depended, at least in part, on awkward or wrong approach, style, format, coherence, misinterpretation of a question, or a number of other contributory causes, but there is no one with whom one can discuss the paper, or who can offer reliable suggestions for future attempts. Nor is it possible to find out the margin by which one has failed. In a number of other external examinations such help is available, either from lecturers and teachers, or from the examining board itself. In the matter of marks, it would also be appreciated if

the Handbook listed the aggregate necessary for Pass, Merit, etc., as is done in the English Handbook.

Reverting to the main contention: if it is imperative to make compulsory that part of librarianship which, according to Mr. Sharr, is only practised by some 10% of librarians, must it engulf 50% of the Syllabus? Could not the Syllabus revert to two general compulsory papers as formerly, as suggested by Miss Reynolds, or else introduce an "omnibus-type" paper along the lines of the General Mathematics paper in the Leaving Certificate, leaving R1, 2 and 3 for those who wish to specialize? More emphasis on reader's advising, wise choice of books to secure the maximum value for money and avoid duplication of other library holdings, and actual *knowledge* of books (something which too many librarians, especially the younger ones, do not possess), and other aspects of library work which are at present somewhat overlooked, might prove to be of as much practical value as over-insistence on the re-hashing of the respective merits of theoretical or little-used systems of classification, and the ability to catalogue and classify.

I realize that the re-organization of the Syllabus is not an easy or rapid undertaking. As the Syllabus stands, however, librarians whose main experience, interests and work lie outside the realms of cataloguing and classification are as unfairly penalized as cataloguers would be if they were compelled to sit for papers on the organization of research material, or archivists on work with children.

Chacun a son gout !

L. G. Norman.

Dept. of Germanics
University Of Washington
Seattle 5, Washington.

Dear Sir,

The Deutsche Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin (German Academy of Sciences, Berlin) is in the process of publishing the writings of Johann George Adam Forster (1754-1794). The first volume, the *Ansichten vom Niederrhein*

(1791), appeared last year as No. IX of the series.

As co-editor of the edition, I should very much appreciate it, if you would inform me whether you have in your archives any letters, documents, manuscripts, and works written by, or referring to, George Forster and/or his father, Johann Reinhold Forster (1729-1798).

The two Forsters were authors and natural scientists of repute, who accompanied Captain James Cook on his second voyage around the world (1772-1775). The younger Forster lived in England from

1766 until 1778, and later resided for longer periods in Germany (Kassel, Mainz), Poland (Vilna), and France (Paris). Both of these scholars were members of many learned societies and corresponded extensively with the most distinguished savants of their day.

I am very much obliged for your kind assistance, and I would welcome any hint regarding the possible location of additional Forster-material in your area.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Kahn, Ph.D.,
Asst. Prof.

Personnel



Mr. Leonard JOLLEY, M.A. (Lond.), F.L.A., has been appointed Librarian of the University of Western Australia. He

will succeed Miss M. E. Wood in September.

Mr. Jolley graduated B.A. with First Class Honours in English from London University and obtained his M.A. with distinction from the same institution. He holds the University of London's Diploma in Librarianship and is a Fellow of the Library Association.

His professional experience includes eight years as Librarian of the Selly Oak Colleges and six years as Librarian of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. Since 1956 he has been Deputy Librarian of Glasgow University Library and, as such, responsible for the accessions, cataloguing and classification departments.

He has been a regular contributor to professional journals and his special interest in cataloguing is shown by his contributions to library journals on such subjects as "limited" and "simplified" cataloguing and cataloguing in the United States, his authorship of the section on "Cataloguing and Indexing" in Ashworth's "Handbook

of Special Librarianship and Information Work" and by the fact that he has been invited by Crosby Lockwood to write the volume on cataloguing in the new series of Library Handbooks. He has recently completed a translation of George Leyh's "Die Bildung des Bibliothekars".

He is a member of the Edinburgh Bibliographical Society, of the Scottish Group of the University and Research Section of the Library Association, and is on the Council of the Scottish Society for the History of Medicine.

N. H. HOUGHTON, A.L.A., formerly Assistant Librarian, State Library of Western Australia, has been appointed Librarian of Canning Bridge Public Library, which will be the first library to be opened by the Melville Road Board, Western Australia.

ROBERT MERVYN McGREAL, B.A., the Honorary General Secretary of the Association, who has been Secretary of the Library Board of New South Wales since 1945 has been appointed Deputy Principal Librarian of the Public Library of New South Wales. He will retain his position as Secretary of the Library Board.

Mr. McGreal graduated at Sydney and taught in high schools for eleven years. He played an important part in the work of the Free Library Movement, was seconded to the Public Library of New South Wales in 1938, and assisted in the establishment of the Library School there in 1939. He has lectured at the School ever since, on such subjects as the history of libraries, library administration, provision and promotion of library services, and book selection.

During the War he was in charge of the combined Services Education Libraries, and in addition was honorary secretary of the Camp Library Service, a member of the executive of the Australian Comforts Fund, and, from 1942 to 1948, secretary of the Documentary Films Committee (now the New South Wales Film Council) and in charge of the film library. As secretary of the Library Board he has been a key officer in the development of public

library services in New South Wales, which now serve a population of 2,500,000 and lend 10,000,000 books a year with an annual expenditure of £818,850.

Mr. McGreal became a professional member of the Association in 1941 and has been one of its examiners since 1947. He became Honorary General Secretary in 1957 and was editor of the *Australian Library Journal* in 1957 and 1958.

GORDON DALYELL RICHARDSON, M.A., who became Acting Principal Librarian of the Public Library of New South Wales in succession to Mr. Metcalfe on February 1st, when Mr. Metcalfe went to the University of New South Wales, has been appointed Principal Librarian and Secretary to the Trustees of the Library.

Mr. Richardson was born on the 23rd November, 1917, and on taking the Leaving Certificate from Maitland Boys' High School was appointed to the public service of New South Wales as a library assistant in the State Library on the 19th April, 1934. Apart from a short period in which he tried his luck in another Government department and for the period of his war service he has been in the Public Library since his first appointment. He served with the 2/18 battalion in Sumatra, Malaya and Singapore with the rank of lieutenant.

He has served in most departments of the library as officer in charge or acting officer in charge; he was appointed Deputy Principal Librarian in succession to Mr. Pentelow in 1954, and whilst Deputy was appointed Mitchell Librarian in succession to Miss Mander-Jones in 1958.

Besides securing the Registration Certificate of the Library Association, he graduated in the Faculty of Arts and took his M.A. with a thesis on the archives of the Colonial Secretary's Department of New South Wales, 1788-1855.

He has been an examiner for the Library Association for both Preliminary and Registration papers; he was Honorary General Secretary of the Association 1954-56 and Honorary General Treasurer, 1957-58, and is one of the representa-

tives of the Association on the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services.

Mr. Richardson has also succeeded Mr. Metcalfe as Executive Member of the Library Board of New South Wales.

W. D. RICHARDSON, B.A., F.L.A., Librarian of Claremont Public Library (W.A.) is to take up the post of Regional Librarian, Glenelg Regional Library Service, Hamilton, Victoria, on 22nd June, 1959.

LAWRIE RYAN, B.A., has been ap-

pointed Officer-in-Charge of the Youth Lending Service, Public Library of South Australia.

G. P. SELTH, B.A. (Hons.) has resigned his position as Officer-in-Charge of the Youth Lending Service in the Public Library of South Australia, and has joined the staff of the University of British Columbia Library, Vancouver

Miss F. M. THURLES THOMAS, B.A., L.L.B., formerly Chief Librarian of Canterbury Municipal Library, has been appointed to the staff of the Fisher Library, University of Sydney, New South Wales.

Branch and Section News

NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH

At the April meeting of the Branch Miss Gwen Smith, United States Information Librarian in Sydney spoke on her recent visit to America.

An Association of Local Government Librarians has been formed for chief Librarians in Local Government Libraries. Further details can be obtained from Mr. C. E. Smith, 22 Yurunga Ave., Caringbah.

The Branch Secretary, Miss P. O'Leary, has changed her address to:—The Library, The Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium, Sydney.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

At the April meeting of the Branch Mr. W. G. Buick talked on the subject of "Communications". He first demonstrated by means of coloured slides various types of communication from primitive signs to the modern neon light. He went on to define and illustrate the concepts of communication, including such terms as "feed-back" and "noise", and then turned to the question of how libraries can, or should, help to eliminate "noise", and foster "feed-back".

The Branch called an extra-ordinary meeting on May 18th, at which Mr. W. G. Buick was appointed a Branch councillor to replace Professor W. G. K. Duncan, who is now Vice-President of the Association.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

During the past three months two meetings of the Branch have been held. The first was held at the recently opened Scarborough Public Library and the second, which was the Annual General Meeting, was held in the State Library.

After members had been given the opportunity of inspecting the Library at Scarborough, the meeting was addressed by the Librarian, Mr. C. C. Florey. His topic was "Down with specialists" and this led to animated discussion of professional activities.

This year's Annual General Meeting took the form of a discussion of matters of general professional interest, ranging from financial assistance to enable members to attend the Conference, to the possibility of introducing uniform stationery for inter-library loans in Western Australia. A number of resolutions were passed concerning examinations.

Archives Section

The Rev. Father Celsus Kelly, O.F.M., has recently returned to Australia after a period of about five years abroad, during which time he worked in records repositories and archives in Spain and Portugal. Father Kelly is an authority on early Spanish and Portuguese voyages in the Pacific and is editing a calendar of documents for the Hakluyt Society. These

relate to the voyages of Quiros and Mendana in 1567, 1595 and 1605. Father Kelly has obtained microfilm copies of many valuable records from Spain and Portugal, which will be presented to the Mitchell Library and the Commonwealth National Library. He expects to return to Europe in the near future to continue his studies.

Mr. Ian Maclean, Commonwealth Chief Archivist, has returned from overseas where he studied archival techniques and systems. Most of his time was spent in London, at the Public Record Office. The experience he has gained should be of great value to Australian archivists.

A Children's Library Seminar, sponsored by the Free Library Service Board of Victoria, Library Association of Victoria, and the Victorian Division, Children's

Library Section, Library Association of Australia, was held at the Public Library Theatre, Friday, 15th — Saturday, 16th May. It was organized by Mrs. Joan Eldridge, Children's Library Officer of the Free Library Service Board of Victoria, and Guest Speakers were Miss Cynthia Paltridge, Lady Clark Librarian from Tasmania, who addressed the Opening Session on Thursday evening, 14th May, and Dr. Elwyn Morey, Senior Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Melbourne, who addressed the final session.

The Seminar was attended by both Chief Librarians and those working in Children's Libraries, as well as Teacher-Librarians, from all parts of the state. Altogether there were 84 enrolments. It is proposed to submit a full report of the Seminar for publication in a later issue of the *Library Journal*.

Bibliographical Notes on Australian

Library Literature

The Victorian Division of the Special Libraries Section has published a journal called the *Abstractor*. This publication is duplicated and issued irregularly. Copies are scarce. The supplements in particular contain useful information. Details are as follows:—

Vol. I, (1955-56) nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

Vol. II, (1958) nos. 1, 2, 3, 4.

Vol. III, (March, 1959) no. 1.

Supplements:

1. Indexing; Proceedings of a seminar (Nov. 1955).
2. A. L. Kent — Union Catalogues (?-1956).
3. A. J. Brown — Library co-operation and rationalisation of collections.

4. C. B. McKay — Essentials of efficient technical or business library service. (?-1957).
5. Jean Arnot — Reading and research in a technological age.
6. J. E. Fry — Getting information to the user. Paper at Div. Conf. (Vic.), March, 1957.
7. L. A. Cheeseman — Future of cataloguing codes as indicated by Lubetzky and Piggott. Paper at Div. Conf. (Vic.), March, 1957.
8. J. Aitkenhead — Educational requirements for special librarianship.
9. J. Korn — Duplicate exchange service (Oct. 1957).
10. A. L. Kent — Scientific serials in Australian libraries: the past and the future (1958).

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION [U.K.]

Recent Publications

FIVE YEARS' WORK IN LIBRARIANSHIP 1951-1955

Edited by P. H. Sewell, F.L.A.

1958, viii, 418 pp. 60s. (45s. to members). Post 1s.

A survey of the major trends, developments and publications in librarianship at home and abroad. National, government, university, public and special libraries are covered, and all aspects of library work are dealt with, including professional education, book production and documentary reproduction.

NATIONAL LIBRARIES OF THE WORLD

THEIR HISTORY, ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC SERVICE

ARUNDELL ESDAILE, C.B.E., M.A., Litt.D., F.L.A.

Second Edition, completely revised by F. J. Hill, M.A., F.L.A.

1957. xv, 413 pp, 12 plates. 44s. (33s. to members). Post 6d.

The natural growth of the stocks of national libraries, the development of their services and, above all, the calamity of a second world war have made necessary considerable alterations and additions in the revision of Dr. Esdaile's text. Thirty-two libraries are described; buildings, catalogues, collections, staff and finance are dealt with, and a bibliography follows each chapter.

PROLEGOMENA TO LIBRARY CLASSIFICATION

S. R. RANGANATHAN

Second edition. 1957. 487 pp. 45s. (33s. to members). Post 6d.

The original edition of this work, published twenty years ago, was an outstanding contribution to library classification and has had considerable influence on library thought and practice. The second edition has been largely revised and partly re-written by the author.

CHOSEN FOR CHILDREN

*AN ACCOUNT OF THE BOOKS WHICH HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CARNEGIE MEDAL, 1936-1957*

1957. viii, 89 pp. Portraits and illustrations. 16s. (11s. 6d. to members). Post 6d.

Each book awarded the Medal is described; this description is followed by an extract from it and bibliographical note on the author, while the author contributes a note on how the book came to be written. The work is illustrated with portraits of the authors and illustrations from the books themselves.

The Council on Library Resources

The Council on Library Resources, Inc., is an independent non-profit body incorporated in 1956 in the District of Columbia, having as its principal objective "to aid in the solution of library problems; to conduct research in, develop and demonstrate new techniques and methods and to disseminate through any means the results thereof". The Council was established at the instance of the Ford Foundation which has made it a grant of \$5 million to be expended over a five-year period.

The second Annual Report of the Council testifies to the vigour and insight with which it is endeavouring to solve the library problems which spring from "the staggering increase in the rate of publication and in the tempo of research."

The Council divides the problems into three categories:—

1. Problems that stem from the inadequacies of the means of *bibliographic access*.

The Council has provided funds for the study of the international co-ordination of catalogue codes, the mechanization of access to catalogues, cataloguing in source and co-operative effort in the centralized processing of books.

2. Problems of *physical access*.

Under grants from the Council studies of the operation and methods of the Farmington Plan and of the United States Book Exchange are being made. A number of studies of copying techniques and especially photocopying are also being sponsored, and the Council reports that an inexpensive and improved hand reader for micro-print is in sight.

3. Problems of *administration*.

The Council is concerned with the standardization and testing of library equipment and a report on the feasibility and desirability of the *American Library Association* setting up a continuing program for testing-standardization is expected this year.

The problem of recruitment to the profession is one on which the Council has not yet found promising areas for inquiry but it has made a small grant to the Committee on a Survey of Library Education which will explore the relation between library education and library employment.

Since the publication of the Second Annual Report the Council has announced several projects designed to tackle the problems of the growth of collections.

A contract for \$201,531 has been awarded to the Crosley Division of AVCO Manufacturing Corporation, Cincinnati, to cover the "development of an experimental, integrated high-density direct-access photostorage and retrieval system for library materials."

The equipment is to be developed by the Crosley Division's Electronics Research Laboratory in Boston, Massachusetts.

The system is expected to provide, through photographic reduction and subsequent enlargement, photographic storage devices, and open- or closed-circuit television techniques, including buffer storage for the condensed storage and later retrieval of printed and other graphic material. It offers a possible answer to the problems resulting from the ever-increasing volume of published material.

The Crosley investigations are expected to take approximately a year. They will be devoted specifically to developing the following:

1. A step-and-repeat camera suitable for preparing high-reduction micro-photographic storage fields. The purpose is to demonstrate the feasibility of conveniently and faithfully preparing such memory fields from original books and other publications.

2. Direct-access photo-memory selection mechanisms to demonstrate the feasibility of selecting information stored in three dimensions, and to demonstrate photographic and electronic reproduction of the

content of the photo-memory. This is an area in which Crosley had already done considerable work.

3. Electronic buffer storage facilities to demonstrate the feasibility of supplying information from the photo-memory simultaneously in electric or optical form to a number of users.

Assuming that the foregoing investigations produce feasible solutions, there are other elements of the electronic system to be developed. One is a searching system; another is a method for "printing out" hard copy that will be characterized by high definition and very faithful reproduction. The staff of the Council on Library Resources is working with AVCO on both of these possibilities. Still another element is a method of transmission of the stored images to remote points, with "print out" or "read out" at these points.

The Council on Library Resources hopes that the Crosley investigations will contribute to an eventual library system featured by:

1. A significantly great reduction in the storage space required for recorded information.

2. A comparatively indestructible and permanent means of preserving and storing records.

3. Ease and rapidity of access; elimination of unnecessary time and motion in entering and removing information from the store.

4. Capacity for rapid transmission of information to any other desired point.

This implies further reduction in volume of necessary local storage. It also implies capacity to duplicate any stored material, and its enlargement.

Verner W. Clapp, President of the Council on Library Resources Inc., and Herman H. Fussler, Director of the University of Chicago Library, have announced that the Council has given a grant of \$84,600 to the University of Chicago to study the scope and characteristics of the library materials required to support a high level of teaching and research.

In their joint announcement Mr. Clapp and Mr. Fussler said: "More and more universities are finding the concept of the open-ended unlimited-size research library, after it begins to reach the multi-million volume stage, incompatible with site, building and available capital resources.

"As collections become very large, it is also evident that even the sophisticated reader can be confused, even misled, by his reliance upon subject classifications that in some cases are not consistent with modern subject concepts, that inevitably must disperse some related materials, and that intermingle the obsolete and the highly marginal with the important or the contemporary works of a field."

The joint announcement said that the search for workable answers would include:

1. Collecting data on the frequency and distribution in time of the past use of books in perhaps as many as twenty different fields.

2. An analysis of the relationships that seem to exist between past and current patterns of use.

3. Invitations to several small panels of experts to assess selected lists of titles in their fields as to probable "importance" or desired levels of accessibility.

4. A scientific check on the habits of browsing to give some indication of the patterns of use of research materials by readers consulting books directly from the shelves.

The study, which is expected to require about one year, may reveal subject areas where the annual rates of obsolescence are roughly equal to the rates of new production, permitting possible stabilization in the size of at least parts of working research collections. The study is also expected to throw light on the speed and frequency with which basic disciplines, such as economics, have made major shifts in their detailed subject interests, and to give some indication of how many books new research library buildings may need to accommodate to provide a given level of reader "satisfaction".

Most of the information for the study will be drawn from an analysis of the use of materials at the University of Chicago, but it is expected that related information will also be collected from several other large research libraries, in order to determine the probable range of variations in the use of research materials among institutions working in the same subjects. Many such libraries now face acute space and growth problems. The project is very closely related to a study of "selective book retirement" at Yale University, also sponsored by the Council on Library Resources.

A grant of \$50,000 has also been made to Yale University to help it to find a method of controlling the space problems of large research libraries.

The study will be under the general supervision of John H. Ottemiller, Associate University Librarian. The report, due in approximately three years, is expected to be of use to other librarians faced with expanding collections and limited space.

Citing Yale's experience as typical of the nation's huge libraries, the announcement said it was found some twenty years ago that the Yale book collections had grown from an Eighteenth Century library of about 1,000 volumes to approximately 2,750,000 volumes, and had been doubling in size every 16 years since its start.

Should this rate continue, it was hypothesized that in another century Yale would have approximately 200,000,000 books occupying 6,000 miles of shelves. The card catalogs alone would occupy eight acres of floor space. A staff of 6,000 persons would be required to catalog the incoming books.

The Yale study is directed to the Selective Book Retirement Program, a variant

of the "compact storage" type of solution, and one which anticipates that it may be possible to retire from the existing collections as many volumes each year as are newly acquired during the same year, thus maintaining at a fixed point the space necessary to house those books truly required.

The program is attempting to identify the books of lesser usefulness so that they may be taken from the working collections and stored under the most economical conditions.

The study will attempt to ascertain whether valid criteria, to be developed in consultation with the faculty, can be found for identifying the types of books in each subject which can safely be so treated, and what the effects will be on faculty and graduate student research and on undergraduate student use of the library.

The study will also explore the question as whether such a program may be depended on to stabilize the size of the working collection in the university's Sterling Memorial Library.

These grants, together with the thirty-three listed in the Report and the total of \$403,361 granted for projects ranging from the design of an automatic book-cradle to "the preparation of a report on libraries in the information-dissemination process in the Soviet Union", are clear evidence that the Council on Library Resources is carrying out its purposes and helping to bring closer the day "when the resources of the world's libraries may constitute 'one library' to which all may have access, wherever they may be".

From (1) Council on Library Resources, 2nd Annual Report: (2) Recent Developments, Nos. 15, 16, 17.

A Portable Microfiche and Microfilm Reader

The early propagandists for microfilm, and other micro-media, made much of the vision of entire libraries stored in the comparatively small space of a few filing cabinets, and every research worker equipped with his personal reading machine. Neither dream has yet been realized. Librarians and readers alike have not been convinced that a micro-library can possess all the advantages of the conventional forms of literature, and the research worker, even if willing to use these new materials, has not found his employer willing to supply him with the necessary equipment. The reason for this latter discrepancy between the vision and the fact is largely economic. Microfilm is much more expensive than its originators had hoped, and reading machines are a major item whose cost has prohibited their general installation. An institution may have one microfilm reader in the library, but one to each worker has been unthinkable.

Recently there have been a number of attempts to produce a cheap, portable reading machine. The cheapest of all is produced by the Service des Microfilm of the Institut Pasteur¹ and costs only some 30/- Australian. It is in effect an eye-piece lens employing a ground glass screen to diffuse natural light through the film. With a 10x magnification this apparatus is adequate for scanning a microfilm, and is excellent for the cataloguer to use, but is scarcely adequate for prolonged reading.

Through the enterprise of Dr. Van Der Wolk, the Librarian of Utrecht Technical College, a compact and economical reading machine was designed. Primarily intended for Microfiche, the machine is also capable of handling microfilm. So satisfactory was the prototype that a Dutch manufacturing firm agreed to mass-produce the machine, called the "DAGMAR",² and it is now being put to use in many countries.

The Dagmar works on the reflection principle, producing a somewhat larger than life image on table top, or, if desired, on the wall. Its great merits are compact design, light weight and good reproduction combined with low cost. The complete machine, with microfilm attachment, being priced at £A36 landed in Australia. This is possible partly because of the efficiency of the design, and partly due to the policy of the Microfiche Foundation,³ through whose agency the manufacturers reserve a proportion of their production for sale to approved libraries and institutes at a somewhat reduced price.

Dismantled for carrying, the Dagmar fits into a 7½" cube and weighs only 10½ lbs. Assembly is simple, and the unit is convenient in use. For microfiche a very neat holder has been devised which utilizes a magnetic frame to keep the film in position. Changing from one frame to another is therefore very quick and direct. The microfilm attachment is more or less conventional, and is held to the reader by the same clips that fasten the carrying case. The lens is a 1:3.5 Steinheil Cassar, and the voltage is adjustable over a range of standards. Sturdily built and well finished in grey enamel, this truly portable reader is an important advance in the application of micro materials to everyday library needs.

G. G. Allen.

- (1) Service des Microfilm Institut Pasteur, 28 Rue due Dr. Roux, Paris 15 em.
- (2) A Dagmar microfiche reader has been acquired by C.S.I.R.O. Sheep Biology Laboratory, Prospect, and may be inspected by arrangement with the Librarian.
- (3) Microfiche Foundation, Doelenstraat 101, Delft. (Holland).

AN ESSENTIAL REFERENCE BOOK

Australia and the United Nations

by

Norman Harper and David Sissons

This volume forms part of a series of studies on international organization initiated by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and carried out by private institutions and individuals in more than twenty countries. This particular study was made under the auspices of The Australian Institute of International Affairs, which convened a study-group in five of the main capital cities.

The decision, taken in 1952, to initiate this important series reflected both the Endowment's long-standing conviction that international organizations, such as the United Nations, are central to the quest for peace and the assumption that their significance and functioning depend first and foremost upon the attitudes and policies of nations. The occasion for the Australian study was the impending approach of the Charter Revision Conference provided for under Article 109 of the United Nations Charter. It was considered that a stocktaking of policies and attitudes, revealing trends of policy and changes of opinion about the function of the United Nations, would be of value for clearing the ground for any such conference. Problems which have bulked large in Australian thinking, or toward the solution of which Australia may be said to have made some contribution, have been singled out for analysis.

CONTENTS

PART ONE: Background to Australian Foreign Policy and Security, Prelude to the San Francisco Conference, Australia and the San Francisco Conference, The Australian Reaction to the San Francisco Conference.

PART TWO: Australian Security and the United Nations, The Problem of Domestic Jurisdiction, Trusteeship and Non-Self-governing Territories, Economic and Social Co-operation, Human Rights.

PART THREE: The Scope and Utility of United Nations: Parliamentary and Press Attitudes 1945-56, Charter Revision.

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